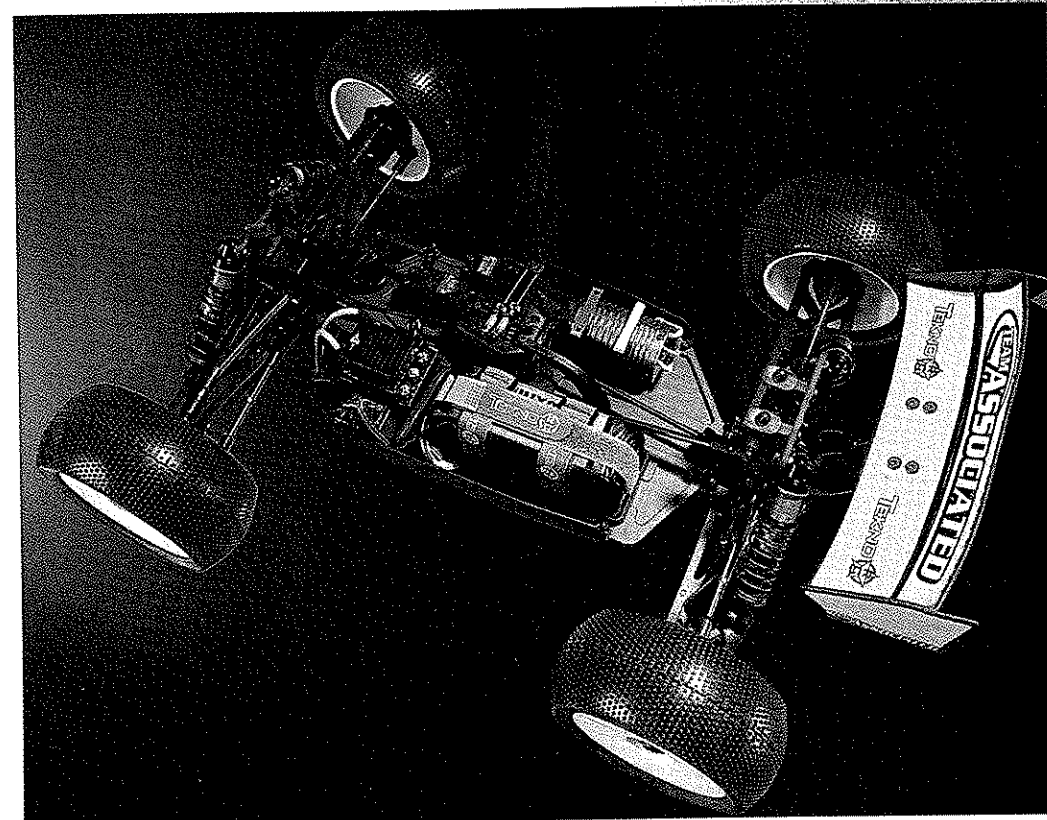


PRODUCT TEST

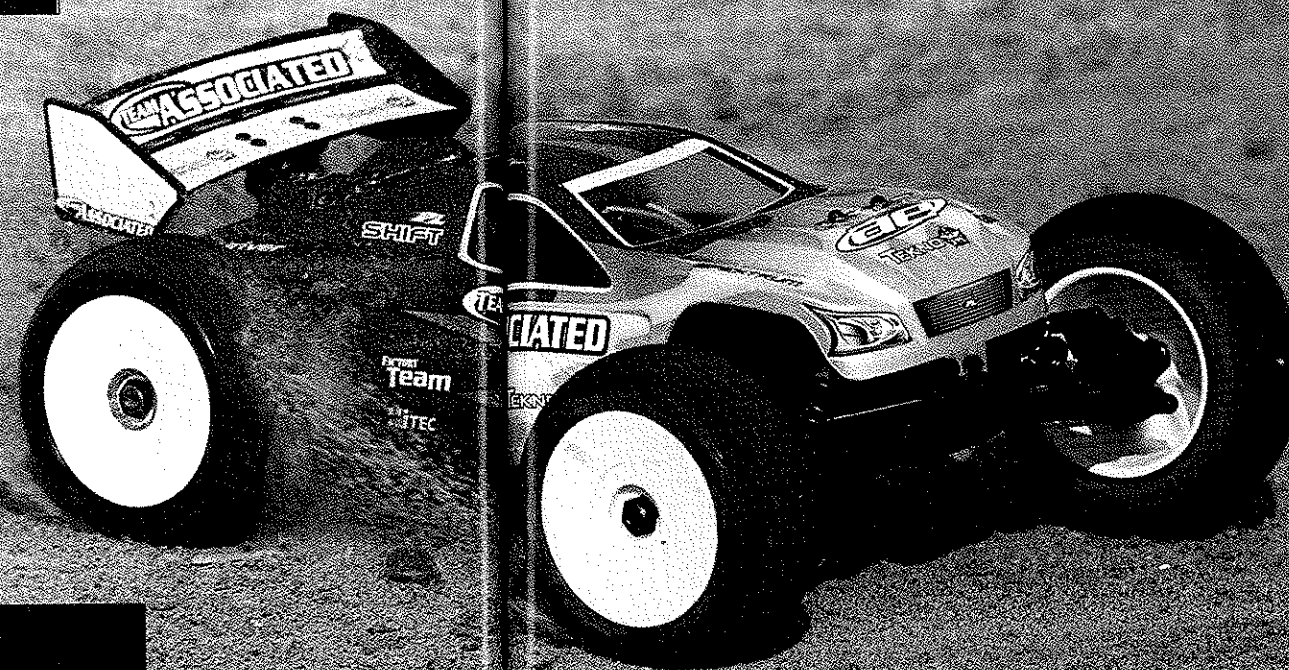
by Dean Berry

TEKNO RCV3 Brushless Kit for Associated RC8T & SC8



An e-conversion with nitro benefits

Four to five years ago, the idea of electric, 1/8-scale, off-road racing wasn't even on the radar. Since then, the development of powerful lithium batteries, large efficient brushless motors and well-designed brushless ESCs has changed all that. Tekno RC took advantage of these new technologies from the get-go and was among the first to produce electric conversion kits for 1/8 nitro buggies and truggies. Having had their hands in the pot for so long has given them a huge advantage over their competitors, and they have now released a third version of their electric conversion for Team Associated's RC8T and new SC8 while some manufacturers are only now releasing their first. Tekno RC's V3 Brushless Kit for the RC8T and SC8 features a new chassis that's designed to make these buggies potent, electric, off-road performers.



VITAL INFO

MANUFACTURER
Tekno RC

PRODUCT Tekno RC V3
Brushless Kit for Associated

PRODUCT RC8T/SC8

ITEM NO. TKR401536

PRICE \$130

ELECTRONICS USED
■ Castle Creations Mamba
Monster ESC

■ Tekno/Neu 1515/1.5D
motor

■ Hitec 5955TG steering
servo

■ Hitec 965MG brake servo

■ Spektrum DX3R radio
w/micro-receiver 35C 6S
3800mAh LiPo pack

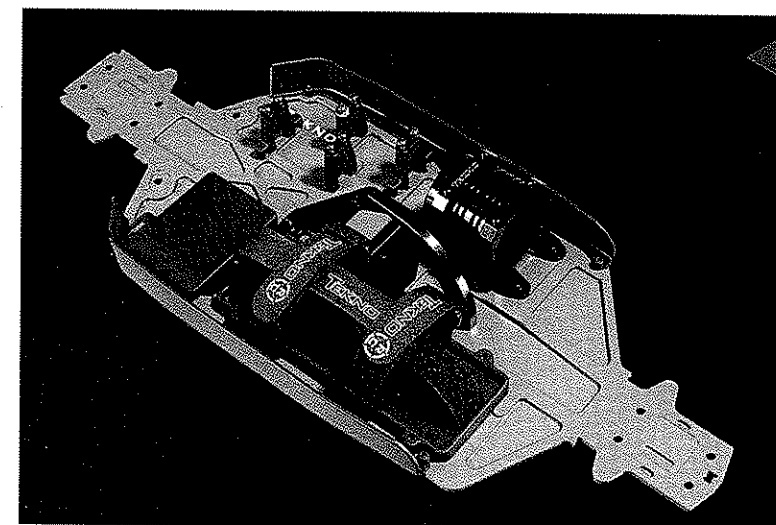
PERFORMANCE

I used the conversion kit with a Team Associated RC8T. Somewhat experienced RC'ers shouldn't have any problems figuring out how to swap the chassis and move the servos from the tray to their new mounts. Other basic installation steps include dropping in the battery with its tray and strapping it down, properly routing signal and speed control wires, mounting the speed control and receiver and, finally, setting up the radio system. Installation on the clutch is easy, too; just leave space between the gears until after you've set the electronics, and then mesh the clutch bell and spur properly.

On the track, the truggy accelerates smoothly and isn't overly snappy, so you're unlikely to overshoot corners or over-jump obstacles. Braking is smooth, but it took me some time to get the mixing control just right and alter brake bias. It's a little work, but in the end, I had the truck slowing up just right for corners. The motor is very powerful, and overall, the truck feels well balanced—and I'm totally amped to race 1/8-scale electric!

KIT INCLUDES

- 1/8 electric-specific 4mm 7075-T6 chassis
- Low-CG motor mount available for 36mm & 44mm motor diameters
- Elektri-Clutch system—adapter, compact flywheel, collet, clutch nut, clutch shoes, clutch spring, 16-tooth clutch bell, bearings
- Low-CG battery tray & battery straps
- Radio tray
- Servo mounts
- Chassis mudguards
- V3 chassis-brace system
- All the necessary hardware
- Installation instructions



GOOD STUFF

- Mechanical front & rear brakes
- Clutch system for smooth acceleration & limited wheelspin
- Absolutely all the hardware is included
- Very low center of gravity
- Integrated motor heat-sink fan mount
- Priced right, considering everything included

SO-SO STUFF

- Setting the brake mixing control takes some time

WRAP-UP

Brushless 1/8 buggy and truggy classes will be the rage this summer, and nitro-to-electric conversions are sure to fly off the shelf as soon as your hobby shop gets them. Purchasing the right conversion may mean the difference between finishing on the podium and a DNF because of a mechanical or electrical failure. When Tekno RC designed the V3 conversion for the RC8T and SC8, they took the mechanical and electrical operations of the vehicles into consideration. The result is an all-inclusive electric conversion kit in which no area was overlooked, so I say it's a must-have. ☺

Links

Team Associated, teamassociated.com, rc10.com (714) 850-9342

Tekno RC, www.teknorc.com

For more information, please see our source guide on page 121.

PHOTOS BY WALTER SIDAS