TeamRocket
www.FlAircraft.com

Team Rocket Newsletter 10-8-2025

New toys! Finally!

We finally received our brand new CNC press brake and CNC router. They are huge! And very heavy! And it was quite a challenge to get them through the 12' shop door.

The electrician was here last Friday to wire everything. Now we're setting up the air lines, vacuum lines, etc. and learning how to use them. We expect to have new parts, and lots of them, coming soon.

Tapered wing update

Paul is busy putting together his tapered wings. These are going on his flying F1 Rocket. They will replace the existing Sport wings.

Paul intends to do the test flying on the new wing before we release more details. Trust me... the waiting is making us crazy too!

Van's Aircraft retires the RV-3, 4, and 6

After decades of offering the RV-3, RV-4, and RV-6 to the homebuilder community, Van's Aircraft has retired these models from active kit production. The last day to order kits was September 30, 2025. However, spare parts will continue to be available.

https://www.vansaircraft.com/2025/07/entering-retirement-the-rv-3-rv-4-and-rv-6/

This should have minimal impact on anyone building an F1 or F4. Small parts will continue to be available from Van's. Alternately, we either have them already, or will make them. We've had the original Czech fixtures for years.

There will be RV-4 wing kits on the secondary market for years to come. If you choose to use those parts to build your wing, simply keep an eye out for one of those kits.

However, Team Rocket has had the ability to make these (Sport) wings since day one. The original F1 Rocket QB kits all had Czech made Sport wings. When we restarted producing F1 parts in 2016 the decision was made to NOT build these parts. We simply recommended buying them from Van's Aircraft as they were cheap and available. Now that Van's has retired those kits, we'll start producing those parts also. In fact, we've quietly been providing ribs, spars, and leading edge skins for some time already.

While our plate is full already, we'll add these to the mix so that no one needs to be concerned whether they'll ever get their Sport wing parts, or other needed parts.

Of course, the other wing option would be to choose our new tapered wing... once we've flown and tested it. Gestation is slow, but it's coming.

SN-00115 An Aerobatic Epistle - suggested reading

https://www.vansaircraft.com/service-information-and-revisions/sn-00115/

While this Van's Aircraft article uses RV aircraft in their examples, their article has direct and meaningful application to our aircraft, which, of course, are direct descendants of the RV-4. I strongly suggest that all F1 and F4 pilots should read the Van's article. You will undoubtedly learn something, possibly something lifesaving.

Mark and Cheryl Frederick

Very sad news, Cheryl Frederick passed from this life on September 7th. She had been struggling with some health issues. Nonetheless, her passing came as quite a shock as she was a strong and amazing woman.

In related news, Mark, who has also been struggling with his own health difficulties, is

now living in Ohio to be near his family.

If you need to know more details, please contact Vince and I will put you in touch with the family. However, if you'd like to send a card or letter to Mark, please send to:

Mark Frederick
5435 Kenwood Road
Apt. 215
Cincinnati, OH 45227

Ted Harrison 1st flight

Ted Harrison flew his F4 Raider on October 3rd. Ted has a Showplanes canopy that he modified to use on the Raider. You can see photos of the canopy development in the Dropbox folders, canopy subfolder.

Ted reports that the aircraft came in at 1125 lbs empty weight with a tail weight of 42 lbs. *(That sounds pretty good to me! My Rocket was 1225 lbs. Shedding 100 pounds compared to the 6 banger is pretty good. Vince)*

Videos:

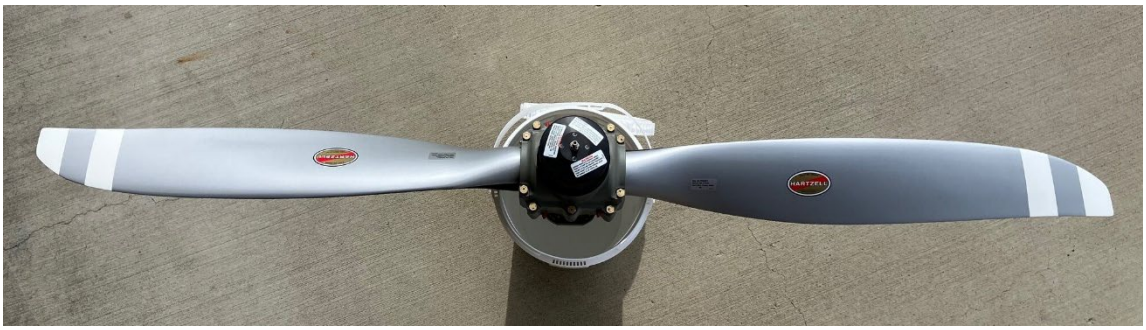
http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Harrison-1st-start.mov

http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Harrison-engine-run.mov

http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Harrison-1st-flight.mov

http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Harrison-1st-landing.mov

Very cool! Congrats go to Ted!!



Prop for sale

From John O'keefe: I have a new Hartzell DHC – M2YR – 1BFPX propeller for sale. It is brand new, but has been sitting in storage since 2008. Asking for the spinner and the prop: $13,186.50

links to additional photos:

http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/IMG_3116.jpg

http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/IMG_3118.jpg

http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/IMG_3119.jpg
http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/IMG_3120.jpg

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http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/IMG_3134.jpg

Note: this is one of the recommended propellers for an IO-540 powered F1 Rocket.

Contact:
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115 S. Glover St.
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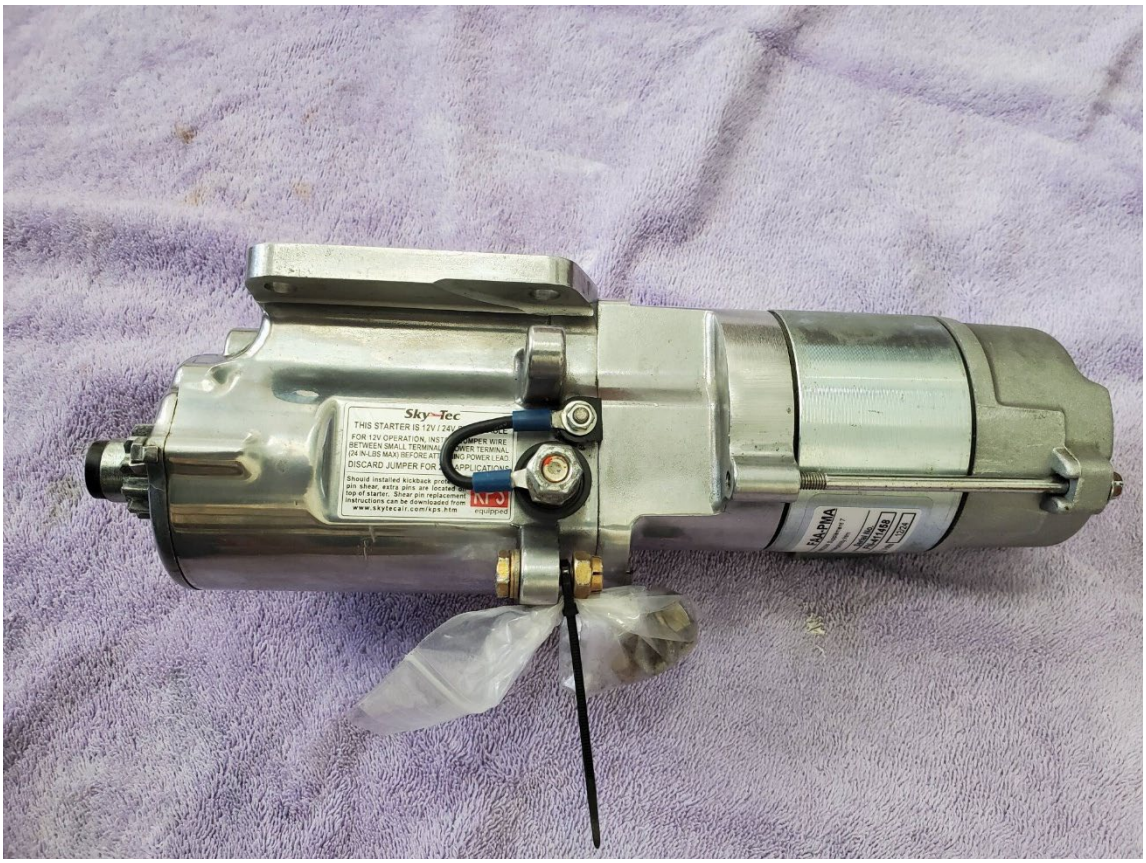
(509)322-1630



Spinner w/ back plate, and starter for sale

From Rene' Brunel: The spinner, Hartzell p/n C-3533-P, has about 25 hours and the back plate is new. I am asking $1300.00 which includes continental U.S. shipping.

Sky-Tec 149-NL 12/24 volt starter. 300 hours use on an IO540 in an HRII.

Aircraft Spruce price is $1345.00 plus shipping. Asking $750.00 which will include continental U.S. shipping.

links to additional photos:

spinner w/ back plate

http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/20251007_084249-scaled.jpg

http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/20251007_084523-scaled.jpg

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http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/20251007_084212-scaled.jpg

Sky-Tec starter

http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/20251007_091833-scaled.jpg

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http://f1aircraft.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/20251007_091718-scaled.jpg

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