

## The PMP February 2012 Newsletter

Dear Modeller,

Since we stopped attending the model shows we have missed the personal contact we had with you the modeller and the opportunity it gave us to keep you updated on our activities. To address this we have started 'harvesting' email addresses from our website with the intention of emailing you every couple of months with news on the latest developments at PMP. If you do not wish to receive these emails please tells us and we will remove you from the mailing list.

Like the majority of leisure retail businesses we have felt the impact of the current recession, fortunately we have enough slack in the system to accommodate this unwelcome environment. To bolster our enthusiasm (there is nothing like new projects to stimulate enthusiasm!) and improve business viability we are re-introducing some of the 'wooden' kits we produced, stocking the full range of AeroNaut folding propellers and resurrecting the quarterly newsletter, hence this email.

### Wood Kits



Prior to the advent of EPP we had the largest range of conventional wood built slope soarer kits in the UK. With EPP, sales of these kits rapidly fell away until they were no longer viable and we, along with others, stopped producing them. EPP has, for us, run its course due to the non-availability of EPP blocks of the grade and quality required for our kits.

PMP started life in 1976 designing and producing slope soaring gliders and whilst this activity has lapsed in recent years the desire to design and manufacture never went away. I did not consider returning to our old methods an option so we have invested in a new AO plan printer/copier/scanner, a CNC Router and a quality Laser cutter. The first model chosen for this revival is the Pzazz because it was a very good aerobatic sports model and would be less of a challenge than some of the others to produce as all the new models will have built up CNC/Laser cut wings. CNC and CAD are new skills I am having to learn! The Pzazz Mk2 is now built and test flown and a CAD draw plan produced. In progress are the instructions and other tasks associated with kit production. The new Pzazz is a significant upgrade on the original and takes advantage of developments in RC equipment since the original was designed. It is lighter, more aerobatic and more satisfying to build so watch this space!

### AeroNaut Props.

The UK market for electric folding props has never been well catered for by the leading UK distributors. I have personally harangued them all, trying to persuade them to source a reliable, quality, comprehensive brand of electric folding props, all to no avail. We are not a big enough concern to do the job ourselves although we

could have imported the AeroNaut range direct from Germany as we do with some of our accessories and Multiplex RC equipment. Fortunately Aeronaut now have a UK distributor with whom we have opened an account. Our opening purchase was almost every folding prop item listed in the AeroNaut catalogue so at last we have a comprehensive range of not too expensive electric folding props. Take a look at the twisted yokes. These allow you to change the pitch of the blades to suit a specific requirement should there be a pitch gap in that diameter. Also the Cool Spinners are very cool!

### Multiplex / Hitec RC Equipment

The radio control market is in a state of flux at the moment. Three of the leading brands on 2.4Ghz have changed operating systems, two of which are currently not backwardly compatible which means if you upgrade your old Tx the old Rxs are obsolete. The leading brand has neglected the glider fliers, and the others err on the expensive side. Barring the title brands non have the full range of telemetry sensors available. There seems to be a lack of joined up thinking which probably accounts for why Multiplex and Hitec are, for us, outselling all the other brands. If you are a full house glider flyer then value for money you will find the Aurora 9 hard to beat or easier to program, or, barring the Aurora 9, find a transmitter with more functionality than the MPX Cockpit SX for less than double the money! PS. The MPX receivers have just come down in price and for this month only there are deals on the Royal EVO 7, 9 and 16.

I will sign off now. If you have read this chit chat this far thank-you for your indulgence. Remember I am just a phone call away if you have a problem.

Happy landings

*Stan & Sheila*

PS Please visit our website <http://www.phoenixmp.com>. It is more than a shop. There are over twenty articles on various topics. It is not just an on-line shop!

