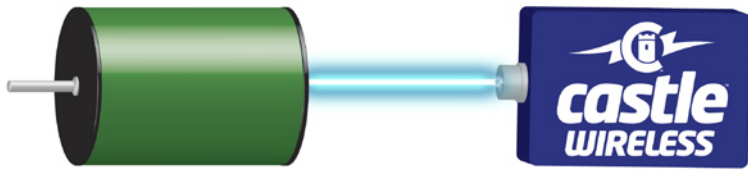


CASTLE DEVELOPS WIRELESS CONTROL TECHNOLOGY

Sensing a great confusion over the means of connecting the three motor wires between brushless controls and motors, Castle has developed a new wireless technology to connect the motor with the controller. "This system operates in the 2.4 gigahertz range," says Chief Engineer Patrick del Castillo, "it is a subset of the permissible spectrum that encompasses just about everything." He continues, "The amazing thing about this wavelength is that it is able to convey great amounts of power over long ranges. We can actually transmit tremendous amperages through the fuselage from the speed control to the motor."



This technology completely blows away the brushless competition. "This is a transforming technology," del Castillo explains, "Copper has a certain amount of resistance. Look, you can't push your hand through copper. Now try that with air, see, you CAN move your hand through air. So there is actually much less resistance with the new system," he says with a wink. An additional benefit of the system is the weight savings. Eliminating the motor wires will improve the efficiency of the airplanes to the point that pilots will be able to stay in the air for several additional minutes.

There has already been a huge cry of joy from the pattern community. Castle fan and Team JR pilot Dave Lockhart says, "You kidding me? This is huge. My wires weigh 8 grams apiece. This technology will allow me to save 24 grams in my plane. That weight is all that has been holding me back from taking the Nats by storm. I'm sure I'll be able to feel the difference."

There are a few design challenges remaining. The system seems to have slight interference problems with anything in a line of sight range of several hundred yards. When asked whether the system interferes with spectrum type system, test engineer Jon Feldkamp noted, "We are more concerned with those people and animals living within the charge zone." Castle has high hopes that some foil shielding will allow them to focus the beam a bit more precisely on the rear of the motor. The motor will then prevent most of the beam from escaping the fuselage. Castle notes that carbon fiber in the fuselage actually enhances this effect.

Despite the tremendous challenges of this system, Patrick expects the high-powered Kansas congressional delegation to fast track the relevant releases from the FCC to use the new wavelength. Says del Castillo, "We think we'll be shipping this thing in two weeks."



Jonathan Feldkamp shows where he found the bug that has eluded him for the past several months.



LEE ESTINGOY ASKED TO LEAVE NEAT

BEAMS OF LIGHT RADIATING FROM HIS PROJECTS WERE DISTRACTING THE OTHER FLYERS.

Shinhopple, NY

Castle employee Lee Estingoy was asked to leave the field during evening hours as his experiments with high intensity LED foamies were preventing other pilots from flying their micro night flyers. "I've never seen anything like that. Damned thing hurt my eyes if I even looked in its general direction," says Doug Hoy of Dayton, Ohio.



Other pilots were heard to comment on the large illuminated area on the ground immediately under Estingoy's planes. "Wonder if that thing makes the grass grow faster? Asked Tom Hunt, head of the NEAT event. "I can't have him growing patches of grass unequally out there."

Carlos Molina, president of the Bergen County RC club was quick to point out that there may be other uses for the Castle illumination system, just not out here. That thing was over the top. Carlos did add that he might like to take one down to his vacation slope soaring

site in Puerto Rico. This would allow you to fly at all hours!

Some of the flyers from the New Jersey area were a bit spooked by the dark full-size helicopters that seemed to be

drawn to the airspace over the NEAT field whenever Estingoy's foamies were in the air.



Estingoy notes that he's grown used to this. "You know how people are about change. At least we seem to have gotten past the balsa flies better thing."

CASTLE ENGINEERS GO TO VEGAS TO WORK ON GOVERNOR SYSTEMS

Castle's engineering department has scheduled a trip to Las Vegas for the first two weeks of May. They have explained the trip to Business Manager Kate O'Neil by saying that they needed a change of scenery to get the governor working most efficiently. Kate suggested other regions of the country, like the east coast. Richard Hofer, head of software for Castle explained, "East coast governors seem to be susceptible to certain flaws in their makeup that created a "furtive" loop in the code that led them to command one thing while actually doing another. We like the way that they are thinking, but that sort of operation is not sustainable." He continued, "We need to make a commercial product

out of this governor, and they seem to know how

to keep their furtive loops under wraps out there."

Patrick, Jon and Rich are hopeful that Kate will approve their project. "We think she understands the pressures on us here, and how important this code is to the future of the Castle controllers sales in the huge heli market." They ask all the Castle heli pilots out there to call Kate and encourage her to approve this project.





CASTLE LAUNCHES NEW RC VIDEO SITE - CALLS IT NEU TUBE; HOPES TO VIRALLY MARKET RC

Castle's marketing director, Lee Estingoy, is thrilled to announce the launch of Castle's new video site. "There's nothing like a video to convey the sheer fun and majesty of RC. I'd like to create an online video site that allows the RC community to post their home videos so that others can share in the fun."

Estingoy has big plans for the site, which he is calling NEU TUBE. "We think the site will be the first of its kind, although we imagine others

will copy it very shortly after we begin. I'd like to think we could maybe sell it to Google or Microsoft



and use the proceeds to upgrade RC flying sites in the third world. They need to share in RC too. I'd hope that the major distributors and the AMA would follow Castle's lead, we can't

spread the RC "bug" by ourselves. We've been fighting over market share in a relatively small market, now if we expand the size of the market a bit, there's simply more to go around."

The connection with the NEU brand was a bit of a mystery until Estingoy explained that Neu referred to Steve Neu and his line of high performance brushless motors. "If it's won a contest in the past three years, it's likely to have a Neu motor in it. This site will only have RC vehicles powered by Neu motors. Why would you need anything else?"

EXERCISE FOR ALL CASTLE ROAD CREW

Are those Castle people dancing over there? Visitors to any of the upcoming RC events like Weak Signals, RCX, or EFX, may wonder what's going on in the Castle booth. Lee Estingoy explains, "I was recently told that my cholesterol numbers would be a good batting average if I were in the major leagues. My doctor suggested some lifestyle changes, including eating better and getting some exercise." He continues, "most of the next few months is spent on the road at shows and fly ins around the country. We love spending time in the booth with the visitors, and trade show food being what it is, I needed to come up with a way to get exercise while I was in the booth. My wife has been after me to learn dancing for a while, I figured this would be a great way to combine those needs and get paid for it at the same time."

I brought this suggestion to Patrick and I showed him some of my moves. He really liked the dance I've worked up for "September" by Earth, Wind and Fire. He thought it was good stress reliever and might draw some attention. "

"I've worked on a few new routines. I'm trying to select music that involves RC. I've found a few. James Taylor's "Fire and Rain" is actually about RC planes. That part where he mentions "flying machines in pieces on the ground. " That's RC! That song doesn't really get the heartbeat up, but there may be others."

Of course there are the standards, like Sinatra's "Fly Me to the Moon" and "Come Fly With Me," but they aren't much snappier. There's Tom Petty's "Learning to Fly" and many others.

So look for the Castle gang at the next tradeshow, maybe even ask them to dance!





NEW MARKETING DIRECTION - CHICKS DIG RC

Castle has big plans for its latest marketing spokesmodel. We've nicknamed her Connie, but her name in the ads will be the "Control Freak." Of course she's an imaginary character, but we have had to work up an entire back history for her in order for our Art Director, Nick del Castillo to be able to image her most effectively.

We had to spend a surprising amount of time on the internet looking up the old Vargas girls and the other genre type photos in order to really get it right. We envision a whole series, much like the Sports Illustrated series, an homage to nose art. We've already run the first of Connie's pieces, where she is on the nose of my Tigercat.

We have a few more in the can. We'd like to cover the spectrum of aviation, so in the next one she's moved into the jet age, just far enough to land on a jet before the dawn of the politically correct military.



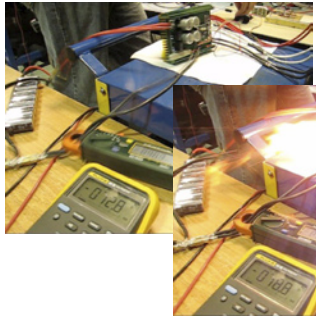
Wouldn't this look great on the nose of an F-4, or maybe on a t-shirt? Where would we put the Castle logo?

We feel her name and persona really sum up our passion and drive for the hobby in a way that words just can't express. We do really live RC around here, and Connie is just another way of getting the job done.

We've played with the concept of a complete line of RC clothing; Connie would be the star. If you are interested in getting a Connie T-Shirt, please let us know! Send and e-mail to: kate@castlecreations.com



SHV: ARE YOU MAN ENOUGH?



As we near the production run of SHV controllers, which are our monster 90 Volt 250 amp controllers, we have decided that the packaging needed to include a complimentary set of safety glasses. We've had a heck of a time assembling sample loads and power sources to really test these things out, and we aren't sure really how they will be used in the field. We thought it would be best to include the safety goggles along with the rather hefty legal disclaimer that we will require all purchasers to sign and send to us.



CALIFORNIA TO BAN BRUSHLESS CONTROL LINE FLYING

Control line fans all over the world are up in arms concerning the recent news from Sacramento that the California legislature has banned flying control line aircraft with brushless motors. The legislation seems to allow glow, but targets electric systems stating: "whereas increasing numbers of elderly men are encountering head injuries related to falls subsequent to dizziness induced by their rapid rotation in the flying circle, and whereas the State of California finds it necessary to protect these individuals from these harms, be it therefore enacted..."

While no control line experts could be located by CNN for interview, Castle was able to get a few minutes with Dean Pappas, a noted east coast enthusiast, who explained that the newer brushless systems offered so much performance that it was, indeed, possible for the old boys to suffer extreme nystigmatic distress which could lead to falls and injuries. Dean went on to explain that he feels the California actions are unwarranted. "We've been doing this for years, that dizziness is our "runner's high" - that's why we do this! "

About the Author:

Lee Estingoy would like to offer the following photo to prove that he was "doing electrics" before electrics were cool. That's a Mattel Superstar, my big haul for Christmas 1972.

There are a few other things that this photo may prove, but we'll leave them for another day.

Thanks for reading our April 1, 2008, issue of the Scribe. We have had many requests to bring back the real Scribe. We are working on a number of (real) articles that we look forward to sharing with you.

These articles may or may not have been written on company time. They are all the (un) doing of Lee Estingoy so if you have any negative comments, please send them to lee@castlecreations.com. All other comments go to kate@castlecreations.com.

