Substantial E-powered, 3D heli with trainer stability

by Dave Keough

QUICKIE **WORLD WIDE**

number of great performing electric helicopters have come to market in recent years, and some just keep getting better as the designs are upgraded with improved power systems and electronics. The Quickie 8, a carbon-fiber-framed electric from Quick World Wide, is one of these. This helicopter is designed for 3D enthusiasts yet was said to be stable enough to help an intermediate pilot launch into the world of 3D with confidence. That was enough to get my attention. Let's see what the Quickie 8 is really all about.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS
As much as I have praised the performance of this fine helicopter,

I was not without disappointment with a few details doing the review. The landing gear dampeners are in my opinion a requirement. They are not included in the kit and are listed as option accessories in the manual. These are the only things that will prevent tail strikes. You have to use them to keep the vertical tails from hitting the ground when landing, and these dampeners a shown in all of the still images and video clips on the websitest are in all photos of the heli in the manual. You will want to out these dampeners.

these dampeners.

Although the instructions include detailed instructions building the head, it came preassembled, significantly decrease building time—this is a good thing. Between the manual and



QUICKIE WORLD WIDE LITTLE QUICKIE 8







Left: Castle Creations
Phoenix 80 speed control
fits nicely on the carbon
fiber frame. Middle:
Futaba GY401 S.M.M.
rate gyro. Right: the
main rotor head featured
high-quality machined
parts.

PARTS FIT AND FINISH

The machined metal parts in this pro-version are overall very impressive. I can't say that this is a Swiss watch, but after you have built the helicopter and stand back and look at it, you can definitely see the quality. This machine is a step above helicopters made primarily of plastic and some carbon parts. This model embodies fine metalwork and machining.

Another product that was provided for

this review are very nice blue anodized finishing caps that seal the hex head screws.

QUICKIE 8 DEVELOPMENT PATH

The Little Quickie 8 has been produced by Helis and Hobbies for 4 ½ years with several versions using different power systems emerging along the way. The Quickie 8 first used Aveox motors that were internal rotational motors (inrunners). These motors were "low pole" motors producing torque

at very high RPM, and the result was good performance with excessively hot motors that required a heat sink casing. The motor tested in this review was discontinued just as we went to press, so we asked the manufacturer to comment on power systems for the Quickie 8. This is useful information should you choose to select your own power system for this heli.

Quick Worldwide owner Irwin Siner notes "Around 3 1/2 years ago efficient outrunners emerged that were high pole motors producing high torque at low RPM and which generated heat in the 120-140F range that is totally acceptable.

Over the past 3 years we have used several motors from Europe as well as China. It is not easy finding the proper KV in a particular size of motor for each different size helicopter; it is a tail of trial and error. In the Little Oickie 8 we found that a motor with 870 KV with a 13 tooth pinion would generate a head rpm of 2,100. With the motors we will next offer but which were not tested in this article, we had to raise the KV to 1050 - and the motor has the same physical size. Now with a 14 tooth pinion and only 19 amps of current in hover using a 6S Li-Poly, we achieved 2,400 RPM. If you want to see extreme performance that's it! We have offered 15- as well as 16-tooth pinions with each increase in tooth count adding anywhere from 125-150 RPM to the head speed. For beginners, a 10- or 11-tooth pinion will produce around 1800-1950 RPM respectively, resulting in very smooth and responsive flight."

CONCLUSION

The Little Quickie 8 isn't little on performance—it's a great flying helicopter. The bottom line is why are we into this hobby? One reason is getting the satisfaction out of building and flying a ship that performs up to the limits of what, in our imaginations, we hoped it could do. This machine both met and exceeded my expectations.

Links Castle Creations, www.castlecreations.com, (913) 390-6939

Futaba, distributed exclusively by Great Planes Model Distributors, www.futaba-rc.com, (800) 682-8948

Quick Worldwide, www.quickworldwide.com, (610) 282-4811

For more information, please see our source guide on pg. 185.

AIRBORNE

Before the first flight I set up the throttle and pitch curves as suggested in the manual. Although the manual said these settings might need to be tweaked depending on your flight style, the suggestions were close to ideal for me. I gave her throttle and took her up for a hover and must have gotten lucky on this because the gyro sensitivity was perfect—no tail wagging or drifting. The gyro was set at 78%.

Other than setting a little trim for yaw and pitch, she

was rock solid, stable and good to go. Throttle response? This helicopter is a rocket ship! I came close to the ground in a maneuver and gave it throttle—this machine has plenty of power to get you out of precarious situations in a hurry. You can hear this heli beating the air—that is what separates this from the toy micro ehelis. When it spools up

to take off, you grip the transmitter a little tighter because you know this heli has serious power. Yet, as you realize you are not dealing with a toy, you also feel a sense of confidence because the Little Quickle 8 is so stable.

This ship has autorotation capability, displayed solid inverted flight, and exhibited quick transition between upright and inverted flight—all you have to do is view the video at quickheli.com to see what I mean. Crisp loops and rolls—all 3D maneuvers are approachable because the helicopter goes where you point it. It is the perfect heli for a beginner to explore inverted flight. All of the components work together well; the Futaba 401 gyro and 59254 servo provide key stability and were key components in this package.



The four-cell Futaba NR-4RB 1,000mAh NiCd radio battery is mounted on the forward right side of the heli's frame.