

History of the Vector III by James Hammond

This plane was developed from the original pylon racing Vector I designed by long time friend Chris Greengrass I think in 1984. It was unusual for the time in that by MOM pylon racing standards it was pretty small and this was in response to trends at the ISR MOM race in the USA around that time.

Basically when I flew the original in 1985 I was amazed by its aerobatic prowess and not so amazed by its pylon racing potential. So Chris and I abandoned the Vector for Pylon and then went to the Sigma design which was VERY successful - but that's another story.

Interested as hell, I got a Vector I Fuselage from Chris and modified the roots to take a semi symmetrical section - E375 I think, and then it really did get agile. Following that, I made the Vector II design which saw quite a following in Taiwan and a few other places, but as it was really a cottage industry and just me making them, it was not really commercially available. I think I made about 35 all together before other things made me stop.

Finally in 1998 I took all the good points from the Vector II and then designed the Vector III which is where it is now design wise. The only difference from the prototype is that the new one is all CAD designed and CNC moulded instead of just a moulded Fuselage and Bagged wings (which was all I could do then) The design created quite a bit of interest in Taiwan, UK and Germany - where I did sell very few of them, but by then was suffering more and more from an acute allergy to epoxy, so I turned to the factories in Europe and then China. Basically this did not work as they wanted so much money for the plane it would not have been attractive to anyone so I gave the project up. In fact I even offered the moulds gratis to anyone who wanted to produce the plane but unfortunately there were no takers.

Now, thankfully due to my friendship with the RCRCM team – the project finally comes to fruition and the plane is available to all. Rocky road but we got there!

This airframe has a long, long pedigree, and hopefully the performance bears it out.