
Autobiography of BOB DAVIS

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The following was published in the June 1991 issue of Model Aviation magazine. Bob received the 1990 AMA Technical Award.

Bob Davis was honored for his many contributions to aeromodeling and his ability to develop new applications for established products.

He has greatly expanded the use of the CO₂ motor. Originally designed to propel small Free Flight models, Davis has produced CO₂ models as large as .20 cubic inches that can be used in Radio Control models. He also applied the concept of diesel engines to aeromodeling. Through his development of diesel conversion heads, almost any model engine can be converted to a diesel in a matter of minutes. The use of such engines is practical for all categories of model aviation.

Like the Burgdorfs, Davis has also been on the leading edge of technology to ensure the quieter operation of models. His CO₂ motors and diesel conversion engines operate at sound levels considerably lower than comparable gas engines. His development of mufflers, tuned pipes, and vibration isolators for engine mounts are also significant contributions in the effort to decrease the noise produced by model aircraft.

An active aeromodeler since the age of eight, Davis resides in Milford, Connecticut. Since 1975, he has owned and operated Davis Diesel Development. Before the opening of his modeling business, he worked for various companies in the design and instrumentation of laboratory and medical instruments.