



The AMA History Project Presents: Biography of GALE HELMS



Written by AMA Staff (06/1991); Transcribed by JS (05/2008), (08/2009)

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

Gale Helms was recognized for the innovative use of a material called DMD (Dacron, Mylar, Dacron), in the development of hinges for model aircraft purposes. The DMD hinges are strong, flexible, and easily installed.

Helms' unique design allows modelers to install a hinge on a relatively thin surface without leaving an unsightly bulge. This is exceptionally practical for models used in competition. His hinges have been used in many Formula 1 models that have won events at the National Aeromodeling Championships.

A resident of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Helms has flown Radio Control models since 1957. He retired three years ago from Westinghouse Electric Corporation, his employer for 43 years.

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