

DETACHABLE WING MOUNT TECHNIQUE

by George White

While attending the 2009 Magnificent Mountain Men Free Flight Championships, I witnessed Herb Kothe's Giant Scale Stinson 125 — Herb's version of the Earl Stahl plan (it's on the web at <http://www.theplanpage.com/esp/stinson125.htm>) — fly like a Gollywock. I wandered over to take a look and besides the 20 strands of 1/8 rubber motor and very large prop, I was fascinated by the method by which he held the wing on. As you can see in the photos below, he installed hard balsa "planks" inside the top of the windows on each side, to which he attached a 1/32" ply crosspiece. He glued a nylon bolt to the underside of the cross piece, which formed a hold-down for the wing. He built a hatch on top of the wing, through which he inserted a 3/16" nylon bolt to hold the wing to the fuselage. The struts were plugged into the wings using short pieces of wire CA'd to the ends of the struts. He explained that the 1/32" ply cross piece was flexible enough to prevent over-stressing the wing when screwing the hold-down nut.

