

# NEW PROP HOOK DESIGN

by Mike Nassise

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A new type of prop hook, often referred to as the "SFA" hook, has been creating a buzz among rubber power enthusiasts lately. It's really not a new design per se, but a modification of something that's been around for quite some time, the Tondra Alfrey "Czech" hook. The modification involves the elimination of the melted plastic coating around the business end of the "Czech" hook, something that has kept many modelers from trying out the design in the past. The "SFA" version of the hook is thus a lot easier to make, and that's probably why it's attracting attention.

I haven't tried out the "SFA" hook myself, but from what I'm hearing it works very well in keeping the rubber from bunching up at the front end of a model as the motor unwinds. Does it do the job as effectively as the "reverse-S" hook? I'm not sure, but it looks much easier to bend into shape with Ordinary pliers than the old classic. In addition, for those who like to use "O-rings" when putting together a rubber motor, their use is apparently compatible with the "SFA" hook.

If you have eXperience with the "SFA" hook, good or bad, please let me know and I'll pass it along to the gang in a future issue of *Tailspin*. Below are some diagrams and a photo of the modified hook that's causing the stir.

