

Electric Horten VII

Whilst browsing the web for r/c sites last year I came across a Belgian company, Innovative Model Aviation, who produce a range of electric powered foam models and had this Horten under development. Delivery was a little protracted as it took nearly a year to arrive!

The model is all foam and very quick to build, the wing is in four sections that are glued together and spars are then formed from carbon fibre tows epoxied into pre-cut slots. The twin 400 motors are mounted on ply supports and covered with very thin foam cowls, the cockpit is hollowed out to house the 8 cell drive battery and radio. I used standard servos set into the wing to drive the ailerons and covered the whole model with solertex ironed straight onto the foam – the recommended finish is acrylic paint but I felt something more protective was needed having seen the damage from the grass on my other foam models.

The Horten is a true flying wing; there are no vertical stabilisers at all. On the first flight there was occasional yaw oscillation, however I have since modified the aileron horns to reduce sensitivity and travel (a slight touch of up could produce a deflection like an air brake due to the built in differential) so I hope this goes away. Flight duration is around 10+ minutes on 2Ah cells, it is not fast or aerobatic but definitely has ‘presence’ in the air.