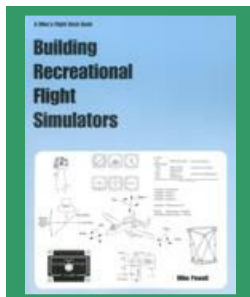




**MyCockpit
Reports**

Product Review BY Trevor A. Hale



Product type: Reference
Vendor/Manufacturer: Mike's Flight Deck Books
Product/Model Number: Building Recreational Flight Simulators

Throughout the globe, businesses of all sizes and markets generally follow the same principals and core values. Build it as cheap as they can, and sell it for as much as they can. It's disappointing really but it is the nature of the economy. The bottom line is there are not many companies in existence that

only want to break even, or truly only want to look out for the best interest of the consumer. Can you think of any?

If you are still trying to think of one, then let me help you out. MyCockpit is one of those rare companies. Each of the staff volunteers their time to help make the site what it is today. Sure we get a small revenue from our advertisers, however every penny raised by that advertising goes back into the company and in one way or another is used to improve the experience for all our users. MyCockpit's vision is focused to ensure the longevity of the information collected on the site, and preserve it for years to come for everyone to enjoy.

Some of you may be wondering what this has to do with a product review. Well it is important to note that there is another individual that combined with his company (Mike's Flight Deck Books) that is in the business to provide consumers with a cost effective means to a very expensive reality. [Mike Powell](http://www.mikesflightdeck.com), the author of <http://www.mikesflightdeck.com> has been collecting assorted information, techniques, and processes regarding the creation of recreational flight simulators for years. He has created his website (a resource of resources) on the subject and has previously released a book called [Building Simulated Aircraft Instrumentation](#). This previous book was an asset to many simulator builders in the past, and Mike realized the need for a more in-depth discussion of the entire subject of recreational flight simulators. Mike has taken away the guess work of the who, what, when, where, why and how regarding this hobby and poured his findings into a single 608 Page [Building Recreational Flight Simulators](#) book.

If you consider the amount of time and effort it takes to assemble all of the information contained in Mike's latest book and add the cost of printing and publishing, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to quickly see that Mike is one of those generous people in this hobby offering a helping hand to each and every one of us in this at that break even price of only \$59.95USD. (A steal of a deal)

It is the intention of this review to briefly cover the new book and its contents but in reality we will not be able to scratch the surface of what is contained in its entirety.



Trevor A. Hale

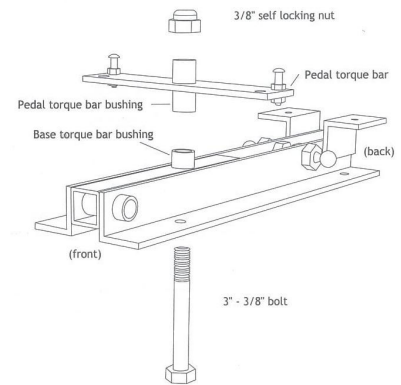
MyCockpit Reports Reviewer

Trevor has been interested in aviation since he was 12 when he joined the Royal Canadian Air Cadets (RCACC). Having owned all versions of MSFS since the beginning. Aviation and simulation always provided him a method to escape the troubles of life and relax. Aviation has always been a part of his heritage. Trevor's family has been involved in aviation for years. His Father had his Private Pilot's license and his brother received his glider pilot's license at 16 and PPL at 17, Trevor watched closely as his brother created a career in aviation. Now a Corporate Chief Pilot and flying the finest jets in the industry his brother truly lives the aviation dream Trevor sought. Trevor's love of flight combined with childhood dreams began to come true when his family purchased a Piper Cherokee 180 in his late teens and he began flight training on that aircraft. Finances dwindled and Trevor never received his PPL. After College Trevor's life changed drastically and the only option to rekindle the dream of flight was to get back to flight simulation. Starting again with FS2000, Trevor was an active part in the Flightsim. aircraft building community. His first project (AG WAGON) Still available on Flightsim.com as a downloadable aircraft, he progressed to a Sikorsky S76. During the Sikorsky Project Trevor was contacted by Abacus Publishing www.abacuspub.com and began creating many aircraft for Abacus. Including (S76, UH-60, DH1, F16, and a CRJ) plus assorted other projects on the side. Moving forward from the aircraft building market, Trevor began reading about the projects of Ocan Sacli, and Matt Olieman, and decided to build his first fixed base simulator. The Airbus A330 was pieced together with plywood, and plexi glass, and really turned out to be more of a model than a realization. The creation of IFSBi now www.Mycockpit.org brought forth a new horizon in cockpit building. A community of fellow builders helping each other with their projects was a vision from the god's. Trevor and Matt Olieman, now Business Partners, are working together to bring the MyCockpit Brand into the lives of Aviation Enthusiasts around the world.

The book arrived in a USPS priority flat rate envelope, clearly looking like it had traveled around the world twice before it got to me. Inside the envelope, the book was in excellent condition. At first glance it can easily be seen that time and care was taken in organizing the layout of this book. It flows in a logical and easy to read fashion.

Pictures, pictures and more pictures. In order to explain the readings of the book, Mike has included lots of illustrations. The time alone that it would have taken him to draw or create all the images in this book would take most of us a lifetime. Each picture is detailed and labeled to be easily understood.

Mike has used his exceptional writing techniques to bring learning to an all new high. He somehow manages to provide a classroom like atmosphere right inside your head. His concepts, descriptions and explanations help you understand ever single aspect of the discussed topic. His skill brings forward a level of intensity that is far superior to learning by any electronic means. In this book he answers all your questions while you are asking them to yourself as you read. In fact the book is so clear and concise that it would allow anyone new or experienced to this hobby to completely understand exactly what it is they are getting involved in. Added to this, he is able to usher you through every step right to completion. Even from the beginning the easy to follow Index can help an advanced pit builder choose a specific section to review or it can provide a “where do I start?” for the newcomer.



From the opening paragraph Mike captures the reader and brings to light the realities and excitement that a recreational simulator can provide to its owner. The book focuses exclusively on “how to create an outstanding flight sim experience!” to the reader and Mike accomplishes that and so much more.

Browsing through the pages, It becomes clear that there are easy ways to accomplish tasks that bring the average flight sim builder difficulty. Mike has made learning easy and fun with his sense of humor and writing style. I assure each and every one of you that as I read each section I can’t help but notice how much information is contained in this book. In reality Mike has taken research from all over the world and placed it at your fingertips with [Building Recreational Flight Simulators](#).



In closing I would like to reiterate how important I believe this book to be, to the flight sim community. Not only do I believe that every recreational flight simulator builder should have this product on their book shelves, but I believe it should be accompanied by Mikes other Book [Building Simulated Aircraft Instrumentation](#). So if you have not placed your orders yet, please visit Mike’s site [here](#) and order your copies today.

Click [here](#) to View a sample of Mike’s newest Book.