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Gilbert to introduce plane line at Oct. show

The A. C. Gilbert Company, famous for its Erector sets, science sets, American Flyer trains and Autorama highway systems, has announced that it will introduce its new American Flyer model airplane line at the Spring and Summer Toy Market Week in New York City.

Announcing the new line, A. C. Gilbert, Jr., president, stated that Gilbert's models are the result of two years planning and engineering by the nation's foremost model engine and airplane designers. "They are sturdy models, aerodynamically designed for maximum flyability, and fill a long-standing need in ready-to-fly model airplanes," he said.

Gilbert's new American Flyer model airplane line will initially consist of three ready-to-fly planes. One model will be equipped with a .074 engine, while two others will each be equipped with a .11 engine.

Gilbert's new engines are larger and more powerful than those normally found in plastic ready-to-fly airplanes. They were developed to Gilbert specifications by Bill Effinger, formerly president of Berkeley Models, now with Gilbert, and Hi Johnson and Bob Holland of Dynamic Models.

Design of the airframe, wing structure, and similar factors affecting the improved aerodynamic characteristics of the American Flyer planes was in close conjunction with Roland McDonald, Henry Struck and other recognized model airplane champions.

Gilbert itemized the major features of the new flying models, and pointed out that although each was important, their overall significance lay in their combining to make up a more reliable, more flyable, sturdier, and quieter running model plane.



Jim Silhavy, 1960 National Model Airplane Meet Acrobatics Champion, gets a close up preview of one of the new American Flyer model airplanes made by A. C. Gilbert. Silhavy is one of many champion modelers signed on by Gilbert to help sell the new planes.