

Building the Stratos

Builder: Richard Tosh

The Stratos is based on a 54mm moulded fin can bought from eBay. It is a minimum-diameter rocket, and will reach high altitudes and very high flight speeds - around 850mph according to Rocksim. For that reason, the tubes are skinned with fibreglass, and construction is strong throughout. It is planned to fly this on the Pentamax hybrid, which is a high-end J motor, at around 1250Ns in its J configuration.

The current status is that the aft and forward airframe tubes have been fibreglassed, the fin can and motor retainer have been attached, and coupler has been fitted to the forward tube. The forward tube has been cut and assembled to the nose and has the bulkhead in place. The next step is to make the mount for the altimeter and radio tracker, fit the launch lugs and apply some paint. The radio tracker is an essential component for this rocket, given the predicted altitude of 9800 feet on the Pentamax.

RockSim image:

