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**FW: 61 Speed 400 Cloudster300 Confirmation Flight**

1 message

**Tandy Walker** <rdb435021@icloud.com>  
To: Trevor Boundy <trevor@boundy39.com>

Sun, Mar 3

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**From:** Tandy Walker [mailto:tandyw@flash.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 08, 2013 5:20 PM  
**To:** Tandy Walker <tandyw@flash.net>  
**Subject:** 61 Speed 400 Cloudster300 Confirmation Flight

August 8, 2013

*Speed 400 Cleveland Cloudster 300*

Today around 2:30 p.m. I put in the first test flight on the little Cloudster 300 shown above. I assembled the model with its 1350 mAh LiPo pack installed here at the house and drove over to Park, which is less than a mile south of me. I was the only one at the park probably due to ext It was partly cloudy and the temperature was 100°F. The wind was out of the south at 10-12 mph. This model has been flown any number of times, this was really just a "shake down" flight and I got me a little stick time before I test the Viking. After all, I have not flown anything since the 2012 Champs. I did not expect any surprises on this flight and there were none.

I hand launch the Cloudster directly into the south wind. Initially it was a little rocky in the c

partly due to me and partly due to the wind variability, but the model got high plenty quick. I took Jack Hiner's recommendation of 1-minute flights, but I cut the power in less than a minute at the height, leveled out, and adjusted the trims. I did a couple of gliding turns into the wind, but always staying up wind. I added partial power for ~ 20 sec to get a more gentle climb and then I shut off the power and started a gentle turn to the left. Now the model started getting high and smaller with no power due to the heat or maybe even a thermal. It was holding field position but I was concerned the model was too high. I put the model in a spiral for about three turns but not coming down much. So I leveled off, put in down elevator, and down she came. I recovered off on the down elevator and brought the model around back into the wind with just a little power.

At this point, I was satisfied with flight results. I made three approaches before I finally landed. The Cloudster is floater and on the first two approaches it ballooned up into the wind and I had to go around.

All in all, it was a good shake down flight and you know what, I didn't even notice the heat. :O) I don't know what the flight time was, but the transmitter's on-timer showed 23 minutes after landing.

The little Viking will be my next test flight hopefully tomorrow if the wind isn't too high. I will try different LiPo battery packs and see if I can get a couple or maybe even three flights in.....T

Tandy C. Walker

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