

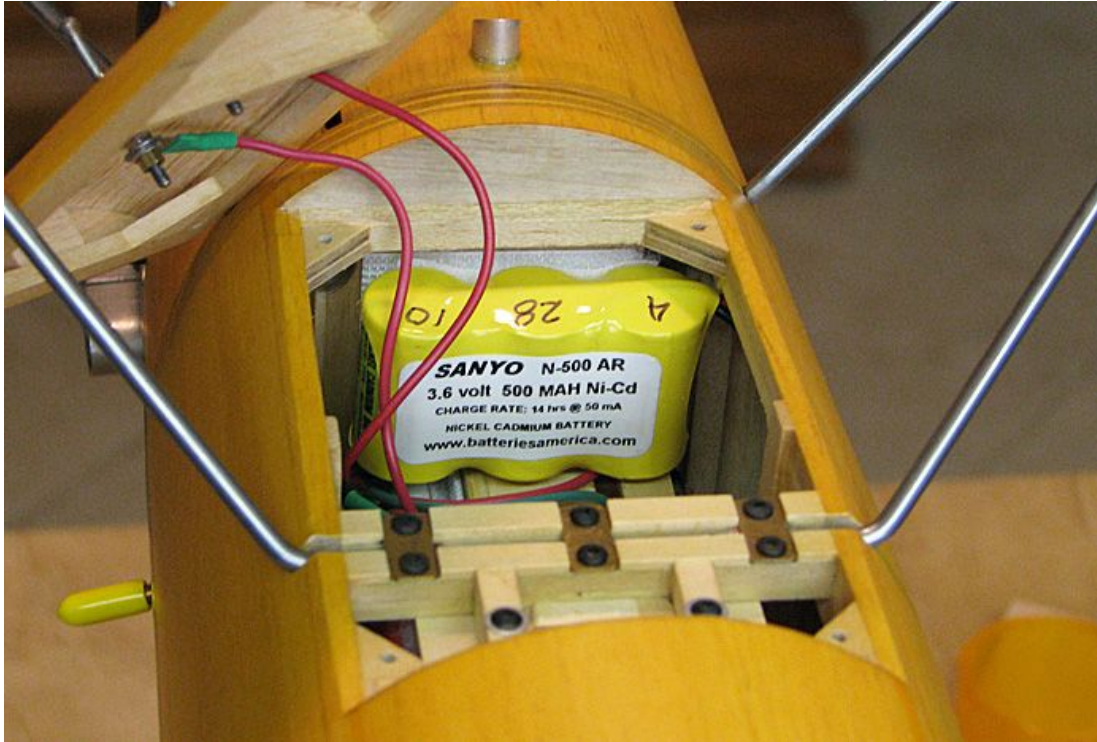
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Subject: 186 The Comet Sailplane

One of the last things I did to the Sailplane this afternoon before putting it away for the winter was to install a new ignition battery pack to power one of Marvin Stern's AeroTech transistorized ignition units. As shown below, Batteries America built up this new 3-cell pack for me using N-500 AR cells that can be fast charged. I received this pack new on April 28, 2010, which is written on the battery's yellow shrink wrap. The pack is being slow charged right now at 50 mA and will be left on slow charge until early in the morning, ~ 16 hours.



After getting the Sailplane's components cleaned up and reassembled after the SAM Champs, I had the model sitting nose down on the work table. As Sue was walking down the back hall, she looked in the model room and saw the Sailplane with its structure high lighted by the sun shining through the window. She remarked that this would sure make a pretty picture so I took the picture below and I have to agree, it is a striking picture.



At this point the systems in the Sailplane have gone through their first and some second generation improvement modifications. As such, everything about the Sailplane is functioning at the top of its game. The model's weight and balance is right where it should be. The engine and flight performances of the Sailplane have been demonstrated a number of times and shown to be most competitive. In short, the Sailplane is completely checked out and ready to fly without so much as a single scratch on it. However, now that all of the modifications are complete, I doubt seriously if I will fly the Sailplane again. I really would like a way to put it on display in some store or large hobby shop somewhere hanging from the ceiling for all to see. I guess I will hang the fuselage on the wall with the wing in the wing rack in the model room and just leave it there as I want to move onto my next winter project. At least the Sailplane will always be safe and at room temperature in the model room.....Tandy