

**ROB ROLLISON, PRESIDENT OF** Indiana-based Aerotrek Aircraft, describes the history of the A240: "Our aircraft are made by Aeropro, a company started by four young R/C modelers in Czechoslovakia. Around 1985 they ordered a set of Avid Flyer plans, but since they couldn't be delivered behind the Iron Curtain, they had them shipped to a friend in Germany. In early 1989, after getting the plans from Germany, work began on their first design, inspired by the Avid Flyer. In 1990 they formed a company and completed their first airplane, calling it the EuroFox." In 20 years of steady growth Aeropro has delivered more than 300 airplanes, 50 of these into North America in the last several years. Aeropro's factory-built S-LSA offerings are now sold in North America under Rollison's Aerotrek banner as the A240 tri-cycle-gear and the A220 taildragger.

The Aerotrek A240 has a 4130 chromoly steel tube fuselage and empennage, aluminum wing structure, all covered with Poly-Fiber fabric. The flaperons and cowlings are composite. The airplane's wing can be folded in 10 minutes by one person. The gas strut-lifted, gull-wing doors have a welded tube frame covered with clear polycarbonate. The rudder pedals are connected through cables to the rudder and steerable nose wheel. The stick controls the elevator and flaperons via push-pull tubes. Mechanical flap and elevator trim levers are located conveniently between the seats. Standard size or larger tundra tires are attached to a thick fiberglass landing gear. Hydraulic brakes are actuated through a panel-mounted pull-knob. Powerplant options are the 80-hp Rotax 912UL or the 100-hp 912ULS engine turning a 68-inch diameter, three-blade, ground-adjustable propeller. Two 10.6-gallon aluminum wing

tanks and a 1.3-gallon header tank combine for a total of 22 usable gallons. All Aerotreks come standard with a Grand Rapids Technologies Model 4000 engine information system and all necessary flight instruments. Most customers add the optional Dynon D6 electronic flight instrument system, a Narco-XCOM radio/voice-activated intercom system, Becker transponder system, and a large-screen GPS. Prices range from \$67,950 to \$76,950.

I flew a 3-year-old EuroFox owned by Andrey Piskarev of Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Like many other owners, Andrey was sold on the plane because of its quick wing-folding mechanism, allowing him to hangar the plane in his garage at home, saving him thousands of dollars annually. The plane's POH is exceptional due to numerous diagrams and color pictures. Andrey praised the quality of workmanship but expressed some frustration with the need to remove the top cowling to access the oil dipstick.

Seated on the comfortable cushions in the 44-inch wide cabin, I could easily reach all of the controls, and the instruments were clearly visible. Taxiing for takeoff, I found the nose wheel steering and braking effective. The takeoff roll lasted only a few seconds, and by the midpoint of the runway we were at pattern altitude and climbing at 800-1,000 fpm. Once at altitude, I flew some steep-banked turns and roll reversals at high

The Aerotrek A240 is a fun-flying, factory-built aircraft that is a highly refined rendition of a 1980s design. Its short-field capabilities combined with its long range, large baggage compartment, and ingenious folding wings give it above-average versatility. Workmanship is excellent, and the airplane is backed by an organization in North America with an excellent track record.

#### AIRCRAFT DATA

**AIRCRAFT MAKE & MODEL:** Aerotrek A240  
**CERTIFICATION:** Special Light-Sport Aircraft (S-LSA)

**LENGTH:** 18 feet, 6.5 inches  
**WINGSPAN:** 29 feet, 11 inches  
**HEIGHT:** 7 feet, 4.5 inches

**MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHT:** 1,235 pounds  
**EMPTY WEIGHT:** 650 pounds  
**FUEL CAPACITY:** 22.5 gallons  
**SEATS:** 2

**POWERPLANT MAKE & MODEL:** Rotax 912 UL  
**HORSEPOWER:** 80hp (100hp Rotax 912ULS also available)  
**PROPELLER:** 3-blade ground adjustable  
**POWER LOADING:** 15.4 pounds/hp  
**WING LOADING:** 10.1 pounds/square foot

$V_{NE}$  : 143 mph  
 $V_{SO}$  : 35 mph  
 $V_X$  : 60 mph  
 $V_Y$  : 75 mph

**PRICE:** \$67,950-\$76,950

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
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