

RCU Review: RC Specialties Turbo Header Muffler and right angle

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PRODUCT REVIEW
RC SPECIALTIES LLC
TURBOHEADER MUFFLER


Review by: Andrew Griffith

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Product: RC Specialties Turbo Header Muffler and right angle adapter.

Retail Price: \$69.95 (Muffler) and \$19.95 (Adapter*)

Manufacturer:

RC Specialties, LLC
 Post Office Box 154
 Zachary, Louisiana 70791

Phone: (225) 975-8072

Website: www.rcspecialties.net

Email: Info@RCSpecialties.net

*Adapter not required for all installations, see text.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS





Muffler



Right angle adapter



Adapter and Muffler

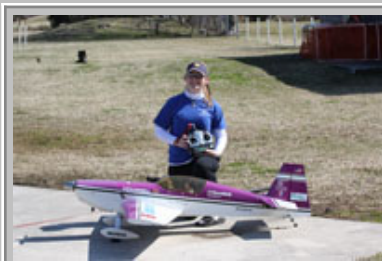
RC Specialties, of Zachary, Louisiana was founded for the purpose of providing high quality after market mufflers for Saito and other four stroke model aircraft engines. The company currently offers their TurboHeader for most of the Saito for strokes along with models that fit some OS, Magnum, ASP, and Thunder Tiger four stroke motors.

The mufflers are machined out of billet aluminum and polished to an attractive finish. RC Specialties uses OEM jam nuts and Dubro pressure fittings to maintain the high overall quality of their turbo headers. The relatively short mufflers are supposed to have a unique exhaust note, increase RPM, and fit inside most cowls. Sounds like a win-win situation to me so lets see how it worked out.

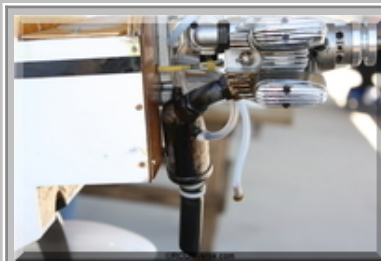
My friend Ashley, who appears holding many of the models in my reviews isn't just a pretty face, she's an active member of our club. Her Saito 180 equipped Extra 300 had a rather motley looking stock muffler that aside from being an eyesore, had a habit of allowing her exhaust deflector to fall off in flight due to the short flange. So when I needed a volunteer plane with a 4 stroke engine I looked on the RC Specialties web site, scoped out her plane, and her mechanic (dad) and I settled on the TH14X1A TurboHeader along with a machined right angle adapter.



Unpacked



Ashley Smith with her Extra



Sorry looking stock muffler

I unpacked the muffler and adapter when it arrived and gave it a good inspection. The instructions say (several times) to install the muffler with silicon plumbers tape with three wraps around the threads. A visual inspection of the parts confirmed what I saw on the web site: first class machine work and a muffler that I was almost ashamed to hide inside a cowl.

Under the category of "nothing is ever easy" we did have to remove the motor from the plane to get the old muffler off and the new one installed. When we were done two things stood out. The old muffler had the possibility of rubbing on the firewall, the new muffler had good clearance between the header and the firewall. The other thing, and one that they really appreciated was the longer exhaust outlet allowed two tie wraps to be installed on the exhaust deflector and it has remained securely in place ever since.

After we made sure everything was securely assembled we went ahead and ran up the motor and put a tach on it. Ashley is a sport flyer and is beginning to learn a little IMAC so the Saito is equipped with an APC 16x8 composite prop. Before and after tach testing confirmed the manufacturers claim of a 200 to 300 RPM increase. We actually measured a 250 RPM difference. I also liked the throaty rumble that the TurboHeader gave while idling. Once up to flying RPM the motor does sound a bit different than a stock four stroke motor but you really have to hear them back to back to notice a difference.



Installed on the Saito 180



Finished installation

If you're looking for an alternative to the stock muffler for your four stroke motor, you really should check out RC Specialties. The short profile makes it great for in-cowl installations. The right angle adapter is a well thought out option that makes mounting the TurboHeader so flexible that it should fit nearly any installation.

In the unlikely event that they don't have something in their online store that fits your needs you are welcome to call or email them with any questions or specific requirements and they will be happy to help you out. They are also planning on introducing other new products to check the website for announcements.

Comments on RCU Review: RC Specialties Turbo Header Muffler and right angle

Posted by: [albsurfer](#) on **05/31/2010**

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Good review. If you know SAITOs, you can tell the difference on the ground in your video, but I agree that in the air, it would be difficult. I had already corresponded with someone who is using this on his SAITO 100 and is getting around 270 RPMs higher with a APC 14x8. Thanks for the review and video.

Posted by: [phililpb](#) on **03/29/2014**

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Has anyone ever tried to use this with a smoke system. I would be very interested to hear the results

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The comments, observations and conclusions made in this review are solely with respect to the particular item the editor reviewed and may not apply generally to similar products by the manufacturer. We cannot be responsible for any manufacturer defects in workmanship or other deficiencies in products like the one featured in the review.

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