

The .047 Prop Shaft

by George White

I have talked so much about this subject with friends and I thought I had written an article about it long ago. If I did, I can't find it. The ravages of age on the mind is a terrible thing.

A few of us who suffer from a twisted mind and build Dime Scale and Peanut Scale models frequently suffer the indignity of having the prop shaft get bent. I know that's hard for many of you "older boys" to imagine, but when you use 1/32" wire for a prop shaft, your model had better fly perfectly every time. The solution to this dilemma is to move to a larger prop shaft — .047 wire is much stronger. If you can handle the added weight, .055 is always a better, but that's a lot for a dinky little model. Using an .047 shaft presents a problem because there are no aluminum tubes into which that size shaft will fit snugly. I can't recall which of the "older boys" told me about it, but there is a solution to that problem. It's called "Special Shapes" brass tubing, stock number 05037, size TT-62, 1/16x.006. It's a thin wall tubing which fits inside a 3/32 aluminum tube and allows you to use .047 prop shafts.

I did a brief search on line but was unable to find a distributor. It is a K&S product and presumably carried only by hobby shops. If you are unable to find it at your friendly local shop, you can obtain it from Bobe's Hobby House, 5719 North W Street, Pensacola, FL 32505, phone 850-433-2187. Ask to speak to Bob or Mike. The price is \$1.39 for a package of two 12" long tubes. Shipping, as you've probably found with just about everything you order for shipment these days will probably be more than the price of the tubing.