



# FORMULA



# FASTech

## Formula FASTech 26 Nitro Owner's Manual



### Specifications

---

Length .....	26.75 in (679mm)
Beam.....	8.375 in (213mm)
Engine .....	Water-Cooled Marine Nitro with Tiger Drive
Radio System.....	Pro Boat 27MHz AM Radio System

Formula, FASTech and Solar Reactor trim scheme are trademarks of Formula/Thunderbird Products.  
Used under license by Horizon Hobby, Inc.

## Table of Contents

Table of Contents .....	2
Introduction.....	2
General Guidelines .....	3
Additional Required Items .....	3
Suggested Field Equipment and Supplies.....	4
Contents .....	4
Installing the Receiver and Transmitter Batteries .....	5-6
Adjusting the Transmitter .....	7
Checking the Radio System .....	7-8
Handling Adjustment .....	9
Range Checking the Pro Boat Radio System.....	10
Filling the Fuel Tank.....	10
Starting the Nitro Engine.....	11-12
Testing Your Boat in the Water.....	13
Maintenance .....	13-14
Troubleshooting Guide.....	15
Formula FASTech Nitro Replacement Parts .....	16
Parts Identification .....	17
Warranty Information.....	18-19

## Introduction

Congratulations on the purchase of your Pro Boat® Formula FASTech Deep-V Nitro. You are just minutes from one of the most thrilling experiences that the radio control hobby has to offer.

The Pro Boat Formula FASTech is a professionally built, ready-to-run fiberglass model of one of Formula boat's flagships. It is meticulously detailed with Formula Boats' Platinum Series Solar Reactor trim scheme.

Read this owner's manual thoroughly. You also need to read the included engine manual, along with the Pro Boat pistol-grip radio system manual.

It is very important that you operate this boat responsibly. With proper care and maintenance, you will be able to enjoy your Formula FASTech for many years to come.

Carefully unpack the Formula FASTech and examine the boat and its contents. The contents contain the Formula FASTech RTR with radio installed, a boat stand, hand-held starter, and the Pro Boat pistol-grip radio transmitter. If you are missing any of these items or notice any damage, immediately contact the place of purchase.

## General Guidelines

It is important that you read and follow this instruction manual, along with the Pro Boat radio system manual and the Nitro engine manual, before you run this exciting boat. Failure to read and understand the manual could result in personal injury, property damage or permanent damage to your boat. It is also important to run your boat responsibly. With proper care and maintenance, you will be able to proudly enjoy your Formula FASTech for many years to come.

When operating the boat, stay clear of people, full-scale boats, stationary objects and wildlife. It is preferable to operate the Formula FASTech in low wake, low wind conditions.

Before you operate your model, make sure that your radio frequency is clear. If someone is operating on the same frequency, both models could go out of control, possibly causing damage to the models or to others. Check all of the hardware, manifold, pipe and propeller for security before and after each run.

If at any time while operating your model you sense any abnormal function, end your operation immediately. Do not operate your boat again until you are certain the problem has been corrected. ***Always stay clear of the propeller.***

## Additional Required Items

Although the Formula FASTech comes fully assembled and ready for action, you will need a few additional items in order to run your boat. You will need the following:

- Blue Thunder™ 20% Fuel (quart) (DYN2320)
- 500cc Fuel Bottle (DYN2003) or
- Fast Tap™ Quart Bottle Spout (DYN2009)
- Glow Plug Wrench (DYN2510)
- Ni-Cd Glow Driver (DYN1925)
- 12 AA alkaline batteries (8 for the transmitter and 4 for the receiver)
- 7.2V Sub-C Battery Pack (DYN1005)

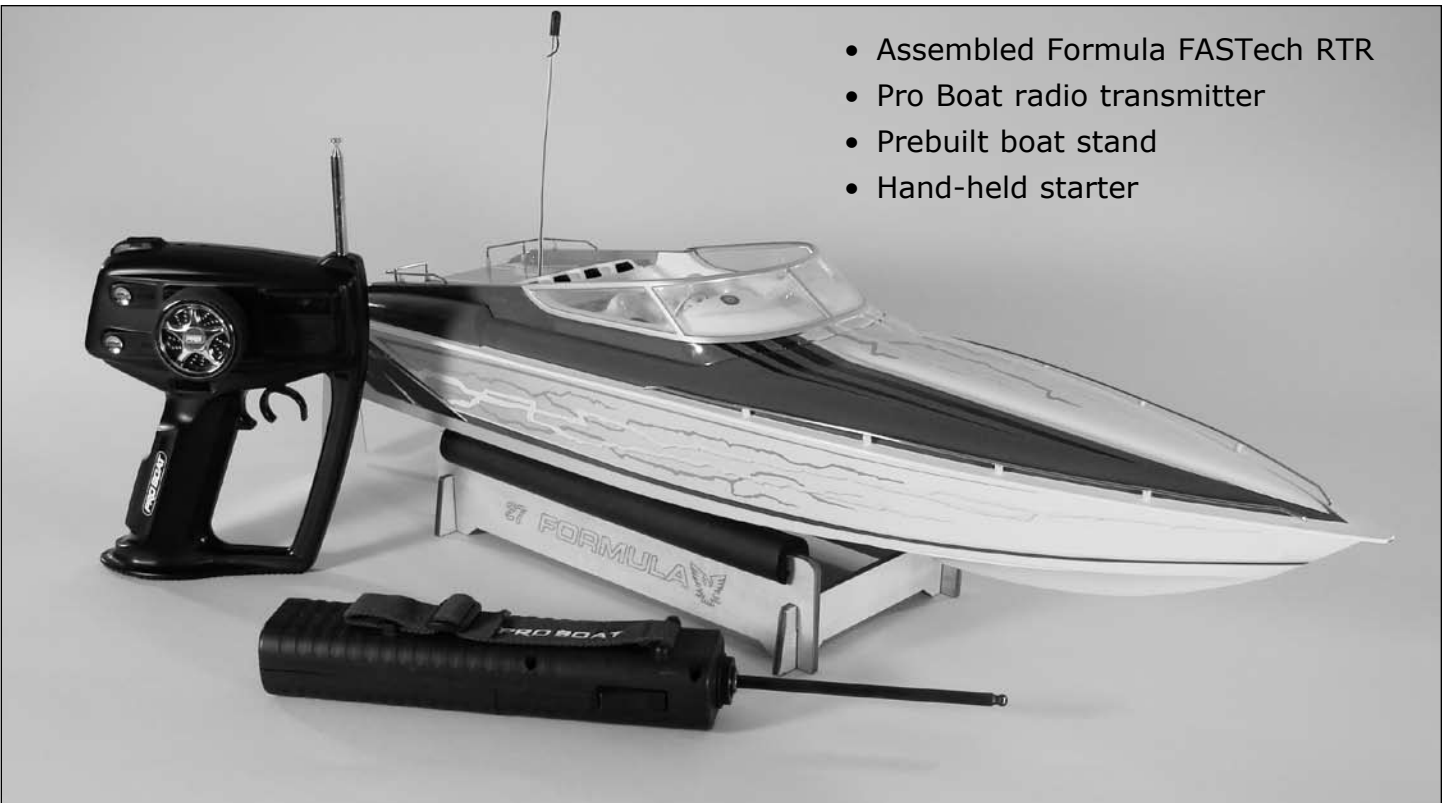
## Suggested Field Equipment and Supplies

In addition to the items needed to run the Formula FASTech, we recommend that you carry the following in your field box:

- Engine Tuning Screwdriver (DYN2775)
- Replacement Glow Plugs (DYN2508 or DYN2500)
- Hex driver/Allen wrench (1.5mm and 2.5mm)
- Cable grease to lubricate drive shaft (PRB0100, PRB0101)
- Clean towels and rags
- AA alkaline batteries
- Adjustable wrench (small)
- 10mm wrench (2)
- Extra propellers
- Threadlocking compound
- 7.2V battery (DYN1185) for electric starter
- Battery charger (DYN4051) for electric starter battery

## Contents

- Assembled Formula FASTech RTR
- Pro Boat radio transmitter
- Prebuilt boat stand
- Hand-held starter



## Installing the Receiver and Transmitter Batteries

### Receiver Batteries

1. Lift the cockpit from the hull from the rear. It is held in position using magnets so there will be a little resistance when lifting upward.



2. Lift the radio compartment hatch from the radio compartment.



3. Remove the dry cell battery holder from the radio box. Install four AA alkaline batteries as shown with respect to polarity.



4. Place the battery holder back into the radio box. Confirm the switch is in the "off" position after installing the batteries.



## Installing the Receiver and Transmitter Batteries

5. Place the radio box cover back onto the radio box. Make sure it snaps tightly onto the radio box to ensure a water-tight seal.



### Transmitter Batteries

1. Remove the transmitter from the box.
2. Remove the battery cover on the bottom of the transmitter.



3. Install the AA batteries into the transmitter. Be aware of the proper polarity when inserting the batteries.



4. Replace the battery cover to complete the battery installation.



5. Turn on the radio to ensure the batteries have been installed correctly. All 3 LEDs will illuminate, indicating fully charged batteries.
6. Turn the radio off to prevent accidentally running the voltage out of the batteries.

## Adjusting the Transmitter

**Note:** Refer to the radio instructions for specific information on transmitter setup.

Adjust both the Throttle and Steering trims to the center position.

Turn on the transmitter, then the receiver power switch.



Adjust the rudder trim knob so that the rudder is centered prior to operation. You may adjust this control to make the boat run straight during operation.



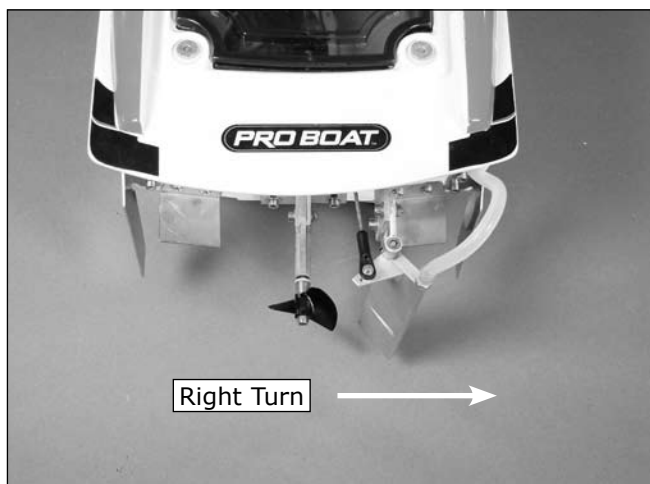
## Checking the Radio System

Ensure the antenna is properly placed through the antenna tube. It may be necessary to slightly pull the antenna tube out to make certain the radio range is sufficient.



## Checking the Radio System

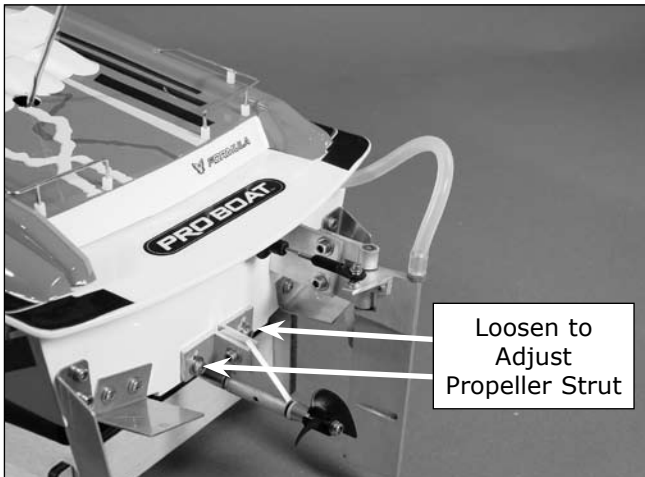
The rudder control arm should move toward the front of the boat when right input is given. Conversely, when left input is given, the control arm should move toward the back of the boat.





## Handling Adjustment

Operate your Formula FASTech in low to medium wake conditions to avoid having problems with the boat overturning. If the conditions are questionable, adjust the prop strut up a bit (which makes the propeller point more downward) to reduce the likelihood of having the boat overturn. The motor mount is slotted to allow you to move the motor slightly when adjusting the propeller strut. Adjust the propeller strut down (which angles the propeller's trailing edge upwards creating up-trim) for maximum speeds. This adjustment will limit the boat's turning ability but top end speed will increase. You can also carefully bend the trim tabs upwards to increase speed.



You may also turn the dual rate dial down to reduce rudder travel in rough water conditions or for inexperienced boaters.



## Range Checking the Pro Boat Radio System

Before the first run of the Formula FASTech, range check the radio for proper operation and ensure proper control movement of the rudder and throttle. Also confirm that the antenna on the boat is extended properly and that all batteries are in working condition.

**Note:** It is a good idea to range check prior to operating your boat after any repair, installation of new batteries, or at the beginning of each boating session.

With the radio system turned on (transmitter, then the receiver) and the transmitter antenna down (engine off), walk away from the boat and confirm that you have control from at least 20 yards.

If everything appears to be operating correctly, raise the antenna and start the engine (refer to Section 5 of this manual and to the separate Nitro engine manual). Place the boat in the water and run it (at about 1/3 throttle) close to the shoreline. If everything is operating properly, you can begin to run the boat faster and further away from the shoreline.

## Filling the Fuel Tank

We recommend that you use Blue Thunder 20% fuel. For maximum performance, we recommend Blue Thunder Race Formula. Blue Thunder fuels are specifically formulated for excellent power and engine protection.

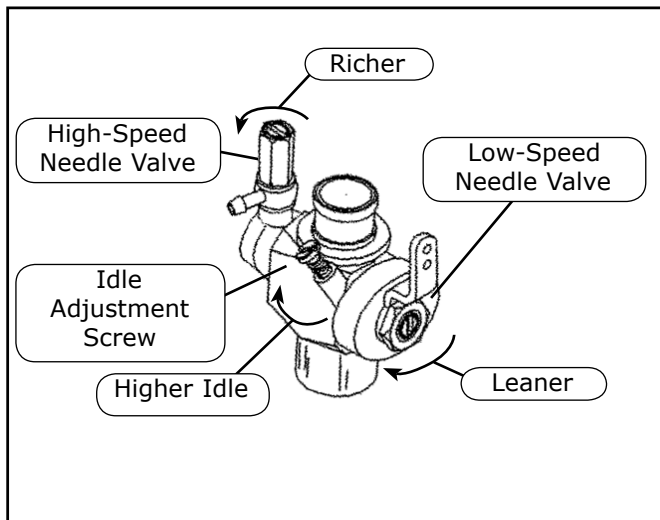
Locate the fuel tank inside the cockpit area and unscrew the lid. Use either the DYN2009 Fast Tap quart bottle spout that has been attached to the quart of fuel or the DYN2003 Fuel Bottle to fill the fuel tank with your selection of Blue Thunder fuel. After you have filled the fuel tank and re-installed the lid, wipe away any excess fuel that may have been spilled inside the hull or elsewhere on the boat. Immediately seal the fuel container by putting the lid back on after refueling in order to protect the fuel from moisture.

# Starting the Nitro Engine

## Water-Cooled Engine

Because the Nitro engine is water-cooled, make sure that you do not run the engine for an extended amount of time outside of the water. Continuously monitor the water outlet when the boat is running in the water to make sure that the water is exiting the water outlet. If the water does not reach the head to cool it, the engine will overheat and fail. This could cause permanent damage to the engine.

## Pro Mix Carburetor



The Nitro engine comes equipped with the Pro Mix Carburetor. Each Pro Mix Carburetor is pre-adjusted at the factory. This setting should be approximately 3-1/2 turns open for the high-speed and 2-1/2 turns open for the low-speed needle. This should give you a slightly "rich" mixture of fuel to the engine. This setting is the safest way to break in your engine. For further details regarding the Pro Mix Carburetor, please consult the included engine manual.

## Hand-Held Starter

1. Fully charge a 7.2V sub-C battery pack and install it in the starter as shown.



2. Slide the starting wand (which is stored inside the battery cover) into the end of the starter, then replace the battery cover.



Adjust the throttle trim on the transmitter so that the throttle barrel is 1/8-inch (3mm) open.

## Starting the Nitro Engine

3. Turn on your radio system and attach a fully charged glow igniter (DYN1925) to the glow plug. Insert the starting wand into the Tiger Drive and actuate the starting switch until the engine begins to run. If the engine does not start, place your index finger over the carburetor and actuate the starter until you see fuel enter the carburetor through the fuel line.



**Note:** Stop operation immediately if the engine enters a hydro-locked condition, as serious engine damage may occur. Remove the glow plug, invert the boat and operate the starter to remove raw fuel before resuming operation.

You may have to “blip” the throttle on the transmitter (applying throttle on/off) while trying to start the engine. New engines are harder to start because of the tight piston/sleeve fit. Never start an engine at more than 1/2 throttle, as this will cause over-revving, which may cause premature wear and breakage.

During the first tank of fuel, advance the idle via the idle adjustment screw more than normal to prevent stalling at idle due to the rich fuel mixture for break-in. Pinch the fuel line nearest the carburetor to stop the engine.

### Breaking In Your Engine

During break-in, the low-speed needle should be slightly rich and the high-speed needle should be very rich. After a few tanks of fuel, begin to lean the engine out. Adjust the high-speed needle 1/16 of a turn at a time. It generally takes about five to six tanks of fuel before you want to lean out the engine until it supplies good power. Do not skip this process of break-in. Failure to follow this procedure could damage your new engine. For further details on breaking in your engine, please see the separate engine instruction manual.

**Note:** It is common for an ABC engine to go through a glow plug or two during break-in.

### Needle Settings

When adjusting the settings, always adjust the needles in small increments, about 1/8 of a full turn at a time. Do not set the engine too lean, as it shortens the life of the engine.

After you have attained the correct needle settings, the engine will have a strong-sounding, high-pitched whine at full speed, and a thin trail of blue/white smoke will come from the exhaust.

The low-end needle adjustment determines how the engine transitions from idle to full throttle. Once the high-speed needle is set, adjust the low-end needle clockwise until a smooth transition is obtained, then back it out 1/4 turn.

### Idle Adjustment

The last setting to set is the idle screw. To obtain a higher idle, turn the idle screw clockwise; for lower idle, turn the idle screw counterclockwise.

## Testing Your Boat in the Water

Make sure the radio is "ON". Test the radio system for proper operation and then carefully place the boat in the water. Pilot the boat at slow speeds, staying close to the shoreline to ensure you have good control and that the boat is functioning correctly. Be certain to avoid all objects in the water at all times.

Once you feel comfortable with the control of your boat, it is safe to go further away from the shoreline and at faster speeds.

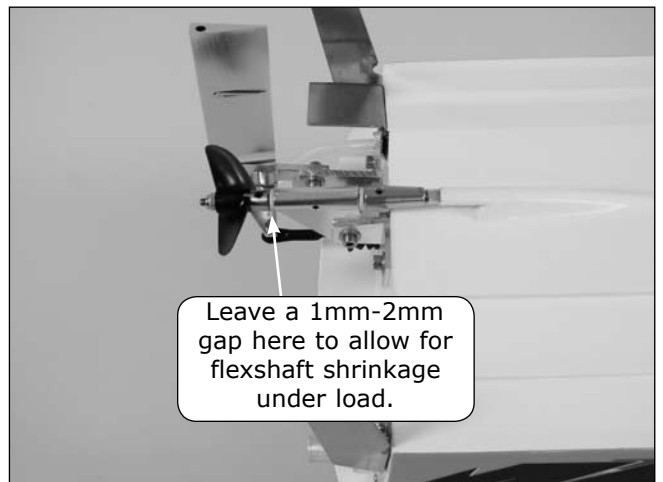
## Maintenance

Lube the gears inside the Tiger drive with waterproof grease every 30 hours of use. Check all screws for tightness after each run.

### Lubrication

It is important to lubricate the flex shaft of the Formula FASTech with silicone cable grease after every two hours of operation. Do not forget to do this or flex shaft damage can occur. You can purchase this silicone grease at your local hobby store (PRB0100 or PRB0101). To lubricate the drive shaft, follow these simple instructions.

1. Carefully note how the drive shaft and prop are presently installed. This is important so that when you have finished lubricating the drive shaft, you can correctly re-install it.



## Maintenance

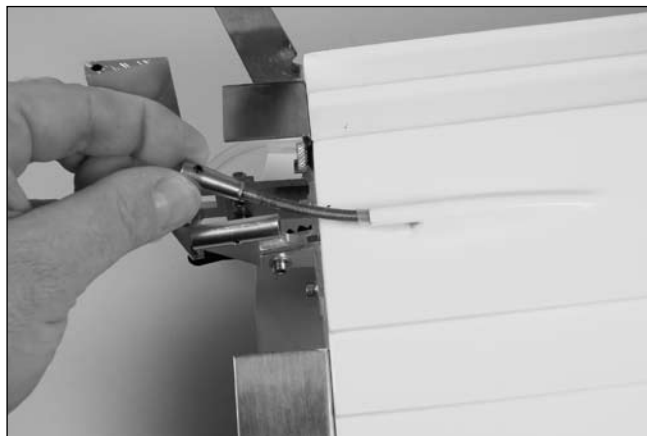
2. Loosen and remove the 1.5mm setscrew that holds the propeller shaft. Remove the propeller and shaft from the aluminum strut.



3. Insert a hex driver into the hole located on the flywheel to lock the crankshaft in place. Then use a 10mm wrench to loosen the collet nut.



4. Carefully pull the ferrule away from the stuffing tube. You will need to pull at an angle to clear the aluminum strut.



5. Clean any residue off of the flexshaft and liberally lubricate the entire length of the flex shaft with silicone cable grease as shown.



6. Carefully re-install the flex shaft and nylon bushing, making certain that you correctly tighten the collet nut. Next, re-install the drive shaft and propeller and tighten the setscrew on the flat of the drive shaft. Use threadlocking compound to secure the setscrew.

**Note:** Running the Formula FASTech 26 Nitro RTR in salt water could cause some parts to corrode. If you run the boat in salt water, rinse it thoroughly in fresh water after each use and lubricate the drive system. Because of its corrosive effects, running RC boats in saltwater is at the discretion of the modeler.

## Troubleshooting Guide

Problem	Possible Solution
Engine will not start	Check needles and make changes back to factory settings if necessary Improper needle setting Out of fuel Improper fuel Improper glow plug Glow igniter not charged Dead glow plug Flooded engine
Engine starts, then dies	Pressure line blocked or unhooked Reset needles to baseline setting Improper needle settings Leaking exhaust manifold gasket Leaking exhaust coupler
Engine starts and runs for several minutes, then dies	Bad glow plug Idle speed set too low Improper needle settings Glow plug failed Lean mixture setting

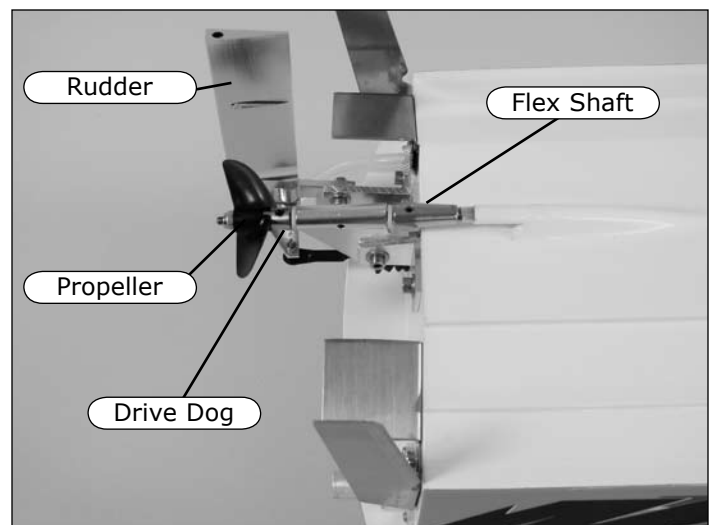
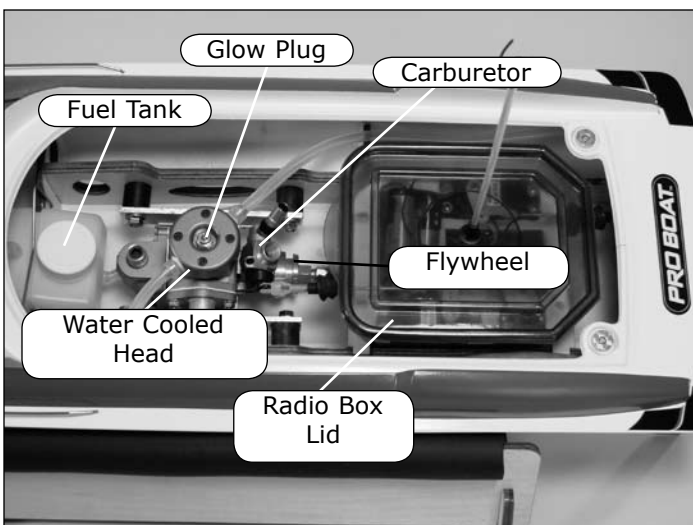
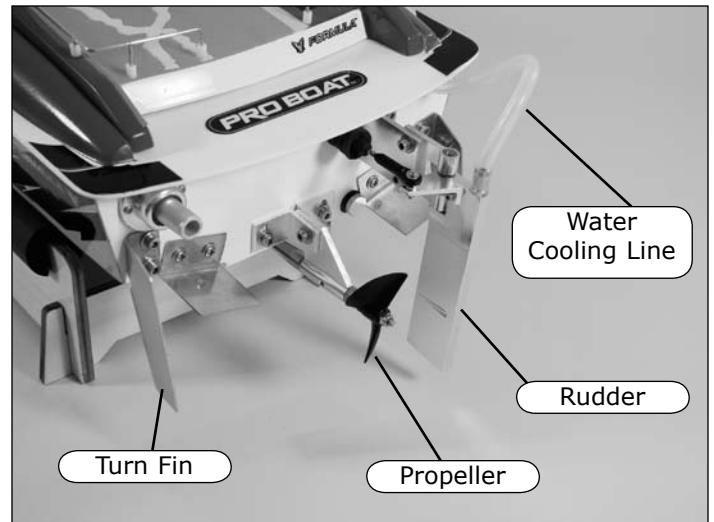
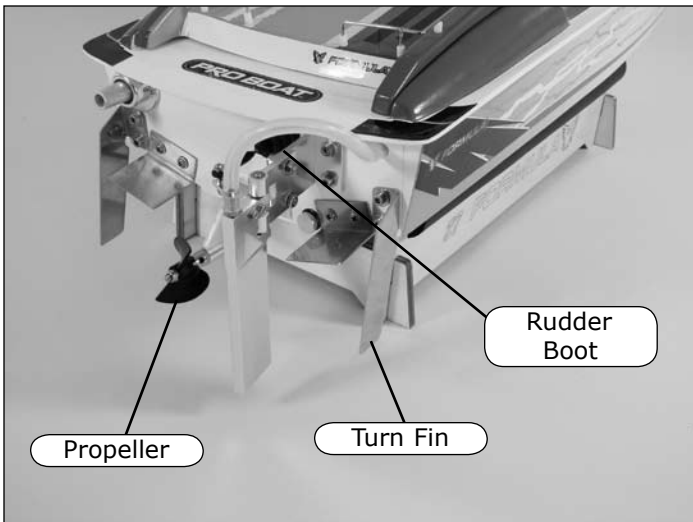
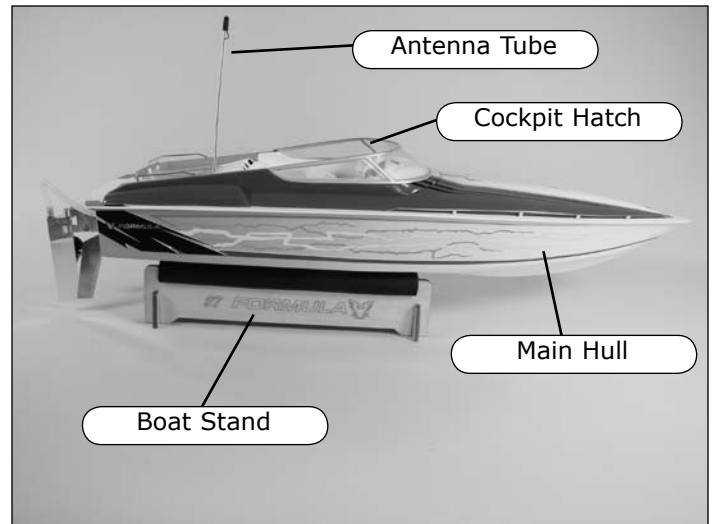
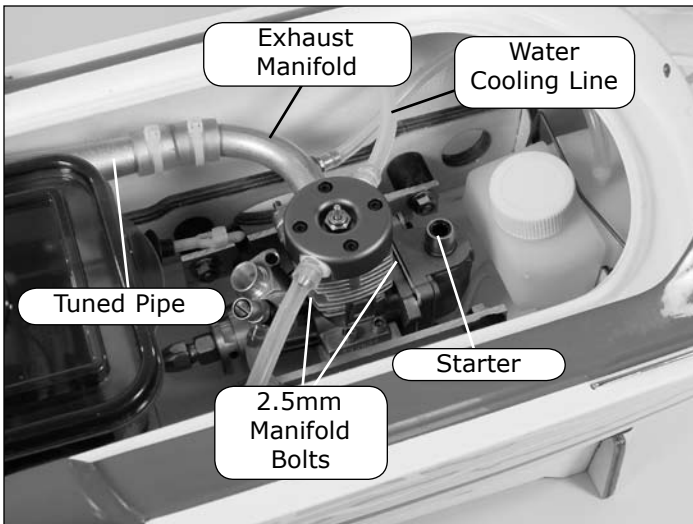
## Formula FASTech Nitro Replacement Parts

In the event that you need to purchase replacement parts for your engine or the Formula FASTech, please see your local hobby store. You can also purchase them from Horizon Hobby by calling 1-800-338-4639 or shop online @ [www.horizonhobby.com](http://www.horizonhobby.com)

Part Number	Description
PRB2210 .....	Manifold Pressure Fitting
PRB2211 .....	Coupler Tubing
PRB0150 .....	Propeller
PRB2215 .....	Flywheel
PRB2218 .....	Propeller Nut
PRB2219 .....	Propeller Washer: 8 x 3 x 1.5mm
PRB2223 .....	Push Rod Connector
PRB2225 .....	Battery Box/Switch
PRB2226 .....	Antenna Tube
PRB2073 .....	Rubber Boot
PRB2507 .....	Drivedog/Propeller Shaft
PRB2509 .....	Cable Collet
PRB2512 .....	Motor Mount Hardware
PRB2513 .....	Flex Shaft Liner
SUL689 .....	Tiger Drive
PRB8100 .....	Marine Starting System
PRB2064 .....	Turn Fin (2)
PRB2068 .....	Water Outlet
PRB2224 .....	Silicone Tubing
PRB2219 .....	Nylon Washer
PRB2810 .....	Stuffing Box
PRB2813 .....	Propeller Shaft
PRB2209 .....	Tuned Pipe
PRB2758 .....	Exhaust Port
PRB2805 .....	Manifold
PRB3315 .....	Antenna Mount
PRB3753 .....	Windshield
PRB3754 .....	Railing Set
PRB3755 .....	Propeller Strut
PRB3756 .....	Rudder w/ Strut
PRB3757 .....	Radio Box
PRB3758 .....	Radio Box Cover
PRB3760 .....	Boat Stand
PRB3761 .....	Rudder Pushrod Set
PRB3762 .....	Servo Tray
PRB3763 .....	Trim Tab (2)
PRB3801 .....	Hull
PRB3802 .....	Hatch
PRB3803 .....	Throttle Linkage Set
PRB3804 .....	Fuel Tank
PRB3805 .....	Fuel Tank Strap
PRB3806 .....	Decals
PRB3807 .....	Flexshaft



## Parts Identification



# Warranty Information

## Warranty Period

Horizon Hobby, Inc., (Horizon) warrants that the Products purchased (the "Product") will be free from defects in materials and workmanship at the date of purchase by the Purchaser.

## Limited Warranty

(a) This warranty is limited to the original Purchaser ("Purchaser") and is not transferable. REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT AS PROVIDED UNDER THIS WARRANTY IS THE EXCLUSIVE REMEDY OF THE PURCHASER. This warranty covers only those Products purchased from an authorized Horizon dealer. Third party transactions are not covered by this warranty. Proof of purchase is required for warranty claims. Further, Horizon reserves the right to change or modify this warranty without notice and disclaims all other warranties, express or implied.

(b) Limitations- HORIZON MAKES NO WARRANTY OR REPRESENTATION, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, ABOUT NON-INFRINGEMENT, MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OF THE PRODUCT. THE PURCHASER ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THEY ALONE HAVE DETERMINED THAT THE PRODUCT WILL SUITABLY MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PURCHASER'S INTENDED USE.

(c) Purchaser Remedy- Horizon's sole obligation hereunder shall be that Horizon will, at its option, (i) repair or (ii) replace, any Product determined by Horizon to be defective. In the event of a defect, these are the Purchaser's exclusive remedies. Horizon reserves the right to inspect any and all equipment involved in a warranty claim. Repair or replacement decisions are at the sole discretion of Horizon. This warranty does not cover cosmetic damage or damage due to acts of God, accident, misuse, abuse, negligence, commercial use, or modification of or to any part of the Product. This warranty does not cover damage due to improper installation, operation, maintenance, or attempted repair by anyone other than Horizon. Return of any goods by Purchaser must be approved in writing by Horizon before shipment.

## Damage Limits

HORIZON SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR SPECIAL, INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, LOSS OF PROFITS OR PRODUCTION OR COMMERCIAL LOSS IN ANY WAY CONNECTED WITH THE PRODUCT, WHETHER SUCH CLAIM IS BASED IN CONTRACT, WARRANTY, NEGLIGENCE, OR STRICT LIABILITY. Further, in no event shall the liability of Horizon exceed the individual price of the Product on which liability is asserted. As Horizon has no control over use, setup, final assembly, modification or misuse, no liability shall be assumed nor accepted for any resulting damage or injury. By the act of use, setup or assembly, the user accepts all resulting liability.

If you as the Purchaser or user are not prepared to accept the liability associated with the use of this Product, you are advised to return this Product immediately in new and unused condition to the place of purchase.

Law: These Terms are governed by Illinois law (without regard to conflict of law principals).

## Safety Precautions

This is a sophisticated hobby Product and not a toy. It must be operated with caution and common sense and requires some basic mechanical ability. Failure to operate this Product in a safe and responsible manner could result in injury or damage to the Product or other property. This Product is not intended for use by children without direct adult supervision.

The Product manual contains instructions for safety, operation and maintenance. It is essential to read and follow all the instructions and warnings in the manual, prior to assembly, setup or use, in order to operate correctly and avoid damage or injury.

## Questions, Assistance, and Repairs

Your local hobby store and/or place of purchase cannot provide warranty support or repair. Once assembly, setup or use of the Product has been started, you must contact Horizon directly. This will enable Horizon to better answer your questions and service you in the event that you may need any assistance.

For questions or assistance, please direct your email to [productsupport@horizonhobby.com](mailto:productsupport@horizonhobby.com), or call 877.504.0233 toll-free to speak to a service technician.

## Inspection or Repairs

If this Product needs to be inspected or repaired, please call for a Return Merchandise Authorization (RMA). Pack the Product securely using a shipping carton. Please note that original boxes may be included, but are not designed to withstand the rigors of shipping without additional protection. Ship via a carrier that provides tracking and insurance for lost or damaged parcels, as Horizon is not responsible for merchandise until it arrives and is accepted at our facility. A Service Repair Request is available at [www.horizonhobby.com](http://www.horizonhobby.com) on the "Support" tab.

If you do not have internet access, please include a letter with your complete name, street address, email address and phone number where you can be reached during business days, your RMA number, a list of the included items, method of payment for any non-warranty expenses and a brief summary of the problem. Your original sales receipt must also be included for warranty consideration. Be sure your name, address, and RMA number are clearly written on the outside of the shipping carton.

## Warranty Information

### Warranty Inspection and Repairs

To receive warranty service, you must include your original sales receipt verifying the proof-of-purchase date. Provided warranty conditions have been met, your Product will be repaired or replaced free of charge.

Repair or replacement decisions are at the sole discretion of Horizon Hobby.

### Non-Warranty Repairs

Should your repair not be covered by warranty the repair will be completed and payment will be required without notification or estimate of the expense unless the expense exceeds 50% of the retail purchase cost. By submitting the item for repair you are agreeing to payment of the repair without notification. Repair estimates are available upon request. You must include this request with your repair. Non-warranty repair estimates will be billed a minimum of ½ hour of labor. In addition you will be billed for return freight. Please advise us of your preferred method of payment. Horizon accepts money orders and cashiers checks, as well as Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover cards. If you choose to pay by credit card, please include your credit card number and expiration date. Any repair left unpaid or unclaimed after 90 days will be considered abandoned and will be disposed of accordingly. Please note: non-warranty repair is only available on electronics and model engines.

Electronics and engines requiring inspection or repair should be shipped to the following address:

Horizon Service Center  
4105 Fieldstone Road  
Champaign, Illinois 61822

All other Products requiring warranty inspection or repair should be shipped to the following address:

Horizon Product Support  
4105 Fieldstone Road  
Champaign, Illinois 61822

Please call 877-504-0233 with any questions or concerns regarding this product or warranty.

### Safety, Precautions, and Warnings

As the user of this product, you are solely responsible for operating it in a manner that does not endanger yourself and others or result in damage to the product or the property of others.

Carefully follow the directions and warnings for this and any optional support equipment (chargers, rechargeable battery packs, etc.) that you use.

This model is controlled by a radio signal that is subject to interference from many sources outside your control. This interference can cause momentary loss of control so it is necessary to always keep a safe distance in all directions around your model, as this margin will help to avoid collisions or injury.

- Always operate your model in an open area away from people.
- Avoid operating your model where injury or damage can occur.
- Never operate the model out in populated areas for any reason.
- Never operate your model with low transmitter batteries.
- Carefully follow the directions and warnings for this and any optional support equipment (chargers, rechargeable battery packs, etc.) that you use.
- Keep all chemicals, small parts and anything electrical out of the reach of children.
- Moisture causes damage to electronics. Avoid prolonged water exposure to all equipment not specifically designed and protected for this purpose.

### Instructions for Disposal of WEEE by Users in the European Union

This product must not be disposed of with other waste. Instead, it is the user's responsibility to dispose of their waste equipment by handing it over to a designated collection point for the recycling of waste electrical and electronic equipment. The separate collection and recycling of your waste equipment at the time of disposal will help to conserve natural resources and ensure that it is recycled in a manner that protects human health and the environment. For more information about where you can drop off your waste equipment for recycling, please contact your local city office, your household waste disposal service or where you purchased the product.





© 2008 Horizon Hobby, Inc.  
4105 Fieldstone Road  
Champaign, Illinois 61822  
(877) 504-0233  
[www.horizonhobby.com](http://www.horizonhobby.com)  
[www.proboatmodels.com](http://www.proboatmodels.com)