

# The Raisbeck Wing



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Editor: Dan Adams

## Chairman's Message "Under New Ownership"

Well, what do you know? I never thought the day would come when I would welcome a partnership with another company. Raisbeck Engineering has always been stubbornly independent, both in its ownership and its "out of the box" thinking, so I have guarded that asset without reservation.

But then two events merged: Acorn Growth Companies (AGC) approached us with an offer for strategic bonding through a full stock purchase, and my upcoming 80<sup>th</sup> birthday was upon me. Both of these took place last September and I'm here to report that AGC is an admirable company with which to be affiliated. Our future—and the future of our upcoming new aircraft systems—couldn't be more bright. They want us to continue to improve and expand our product offerings. This aligns perfectly with our long term goals.

My part in this business is now as Chairman and everyday kibitzer of engineering and marketing. Both of these I thoroughly enjoy, and they get me to work every day here, with enthusiasm.

**"New ownership, same great products and service."**

The function of CEO is currently being handled by our CFO, Tony Armstrong. No changes in or out on the payroll have taken place. It's been since I left Boeing in 1969 that I haven't been a CEO, and I love it!

And...there's room for a late afternoon nap every day.

So the new slogan around here is: "New ownership, same great products and service." →



James D. Raisbeck, Founder & Chairman

## 2017 marks Raisbeck's 35th year of service to Business and Commercial Aviation

Thirty five years ago, with \$500 and his kitchen table for a desk, James Raisbeck founded Raisbeck Engineering, hired his first employee and received the first STC for a King Air Performance System, High Flotation Gear Doors that restore about 12 knots cruise speed lost to the high flotation gear.

One success led to another over the next 35 years as Raisbeck engineers continued to develop performance enhancements for the entire Beechcraft King Air Family—including the latest models, the King Air 350/350i, 250 and C90GTx. Most recently, Raisbeck brought swept wing technology to the business aviation market with the affordable, powerful, noise-reducing and visually striking Swept Blade Turbofan Propellers.



Other highly successful products include:

- 1995-1996 – Aft Fuselage Lockers for Model 31, 35 and 36 Learjets
- 2004 – ZR LITE technology for Model 35 and 36 Learjets
- 2006 – ZR LITE for Model 31 Learjets

Other notable achievements during this time frame include Stage 3 Noise Reduction Kits for Boeing 727s (installed on hundreds of aircraft); Hardened Cockpit Security System for Boeing 737s; and Overhead Bin Enlargement Kits for Airbus A320s (doubling the aircraft's on-board luggage capacity).

Today, the Raisbeck Team continues to look for ways to improve the productivity, performance, comfort and safety of business and commercial aircraft through the application of advanced aerospace technology to provide solutions that improve the lives, aviation experiences, and businesses of airplane owners and operators.

We're looking forward to the next 35 years—and beyond! →

# Why your 2017 should be EPIC!

Why should 90 and 200 Series King Air operators choose Raisbeck's EPIC Performance Package? The answer: improved performance, productivity, comfort and safety—plus tremendous savings from package pricing. When the performance contributions of all the Performance Systems bundled into an EPIC Performance Package are added up, the resulting performance gains are *greater than the sum* of each individual System's contribution. That's *synergy* at work for you!

The synergistic performance improvements are so significant that we choose not to extol the contributions of the individual Performance Systems; instead we bundle them to take advantage of the synergistic effects of the products and certified them with FAA-Approved Airplane Flight Manual Supplements.

## EPIC PACKAGE: PERFORMANCE BENEFITS

As an example, the complete EPIC Platinum Package for a King Air B200 with high flotation gear consists of Raisbeck's Swept Blade Propellers, Ram Air Recovery System, Enhanced Performance Leading Edges, High Flotation Gear Doors and Dual Aft Body Strakes. While the Swept Blade Propellers contribute significantly to performance, EPIC Gold Packages are available for certain King Air models whose owners are not yet ready to trade their OEM propellers for the Swept Props.

With either EPIC Platinum or Gold Packages, together the EPIC Systems significantly improve performance in all phases of flight. Documented improvements include:

- Increased allowable gross weights from limiting airports—giving you the ability to carry more passengers, cargo and fuel
- Shorter takeoff and landing distances—which enables safe operations into and out of thousands more airports

- Increased climb rates and higher initial cruise altitudes
- Faster and more fuel-efficient cruise
- Enhanced all-weather engine performance
- Quieter, more comfortable cockpit and cabin thanks to reduced cruise RPM
- Greater dispatch reliability due to the elimination or reduction of inoperative yaw damper restrictions
- Worldwide noise certification

Another huge advantage a Raisbeck EPIC Package is found in the AFMS: true FAR Part 25 Balanced Field Lengths. Yes, Raisbeck's EPIC Packages are certified to commercial airline safety standards!

## EPIC PACKAGE: FINANCIAL BENEFITS

If a King Air owner took a little time to explore and truly understand the many advantages of a Raisbeck EPIC Performance Package (which is easy to do on our [website](#)), the decision to transform his or her King Air should be a foregone conclusion. After all, why would

anyone spend millions of dollars for a King Air B200 and not spend at least \$96,071 for a Raisbeck EPIC Gold package? And if he or she were aware of the benefits of Raisbeck Swept Blade Propellers (more thrust, less noise, stunning

ram appeal), the EPIC Platinum Package is attractively priced at only \$74,724 more.

Now, the owner might well think about adding Raisbeck's EPIC Performance Systems one or two at a time—a “building block” approach. While that approach will eventually result in completing the EPIC Package, the total cost will be considerably more than the special EPIC Package pricing we offer, especially if reduced installation time is brought into the equation.

That is why your 2017 should be EPIC! ➔

***EPIC Performance Systems are packaged to take advantage of the synergistic effects of the individual products working together—and save both money and installation time.***

## Top 10 Raisbeck Dealers of 2016



1. Elliott Aviation, Moline, Illinois
2. International Propeller Service, Lincoln, Nebraska
3. Aircraft Turbine Works, Fort Pierce, Florida
4. Textron Aviation Service, Tampa, Florida
5. Absolute Aviation, Lanseria, South Africa
6. Cessna Düsseldorf Citation Service Center, Düsseldorf, Germany
7. Stevens Aviation, Nashville, Tennessee.
8. Bromma Air Maintenance AB, Bromma, Sweden
9. Textron Aviation Service, Wichita, Kansas
10. Textron Aviation Service, Houston, Texas

Find a Raisbeck Authorized Dealer near you at [www.raisbeck.com/dealerlocator](http://www.raisbeck.com/dealerlocator)

# 1985 King Air is transformed with Raisbeck's EPIC Platinum Package

When BB-1201 rolled into Elliott Aviation's Moline, Illinois, hangar, its transformation incorporated a complete Raisbeck EPIC Platinum Performance Package (including High Float Gear Doors and optional Crown Wing Lockers) that provides significant improvements in all phases of flight—along with the stunningly modern look of Raisbeck's Swept Blade Turbofan Propellers.



Top row, left to right: Side views show Raisbeck's Dual Aft Body Strakes, High Flotation Gear Doors, Crown Wing Lockers and Swept Props. Bottom row: 1) Swept Blade Propellers, 2) Crown Wing Lockers and High Flotation Gear Doors, and 3) test flight prior to delivery.

## TECH TIP: Preventative maintenance for Ram Air Recovery System operating in harsh environments

Your engine inlet has a big job! Its main purpose is to cram as much good clean air into your engine in the most efficient manner possible. Everything from clean air to rain, sleet, hail and snow passes into your inlet.

The Raisbeck Ram Air Recovery System greatly improves the King Air's airflow vector efficiency.



One of the main components of the Ram Air Recovery System is the Ice Shedder Screen Assembly. Its purpose is to shed ice in icing conditions, helps to deflect FOD when taxiing, and ensures maximum airflow into the engine. However, there are some other environmental conditions that can be more corrosive, not only to

the Ice Shedder but also other components and even your engine.

You may wonder why you need to be concerned about corrosion prevention on a part that is made of stainless steel. Well, even stainless steel corrodes in salt-laden or corrosive chemical environments such as those found in marine, industrial smog or even volcanic conditions.

If you operate in those environments, over time corrosive substances attach to and attack the metal of your Ice Shedder Screen, which leads to corrosion pitting, which in turn leads to fatigue cracking and potential failure of the screen.



Example of a new Ice Shedder Screen

Prevention is quite simple: daily water washes of the inlets and Ram Air Recovery System components including the Ice Shedder Screen Assembly. We have made it easy with a Service Letter providing specific procedural instructions: SL-15-BC-01. You can find it on the Technical Documents page on our website, or you can contact us by phone or email and we will send it to you. ➔

If you can't find something, give us a call! Our Tech Support Team is ready to help.

Phone (206) 723-2000 • Email [techsupport@raisbeck.com](mailto:techsupport@raisbeck.com)

## Get to know the Raisbeck Team

# Bo Alabic, Operations Supervisor

**B**o Alabic assumed his current position at Raisbeck Engineering in 2013. His responsibilities range from day-to-day oversight of the Operations Department to supplier management of composite part manufacturers.

Born in Serbia, Bo came to the U.S. in 1992 at age 17 to attend high school in the Seattle area, taking advantage of an international student exchange program. He decided to further his education in the U.S. by enrolling in a local college where he studied engineering and computer science until he took the first step on his career path in aerospace with a position as a programmer at a machine shop in the area.

He landed at TMX Aerospace as Operations Manager and helped the company expand its business rapidly over the next few years before once again looking for a fresh challenge.

Following a brief stint as Production Manager at Heatcon, Bo accepted a job as Manufacturing Manager at Boeing where he spent nearly two years on the 787 program

to rework early-built airplanes. The end of that program started a search for

***“I like to perfect things, and I like to be prepared.”***

employment that brought him to Raisbeck Engineering.

Bo is enthusiastic about his work at Raisbeck: “I love it! There are a lot of different projects that keep things interesting. I like the

people, the atmosphere and the challenges. Here we are always looking for new opportunities to make improvements to aircraft, ways to squeeze a little extra performance out of them.” He also enjoys working with Raisbeck’s engineers who are always open to fresh ideas and suggestions.

Bo’s love of challenges extends to his personal life. “I’m not afraid of taking on projects in areas where I have no prior experience.” An example was having to change a timing belt in a car. “As with many new tasks, I’m self-taught and hands-on. With the help of a couple of friends, we got the job done.”



Bo and his wife Sandra have two daughters and one son—Madison, Lourdes and Lucien. Year-round, a great deal of his free time is spent on soccer fields where he serves as referee in games that primarily involve adult teams, although he does referee some high school and other youth teams.

Bo also likes flying—with high-end simulation software for commercial airplanes. “My son will tell you I have crashed many, many times!” Practice makes perfect and now that he is not a “dangerous” virtual pilot, Bo has taken on the new challenge of building a home cockpit in the hope that it will create a good father-son flying experience. The big decision is whether it will be 747 or 737 cockpit.

You don’t have to be around him long to know Bo will not give up until he achieves perfection. “I like to perfect things, and I like to be prepared,” he says. The combination bodes well for every task he takes on, which makes him a most valuable addition to the Raisbeck Team. ➔



*At NBAA 2016, Bo tries out the controls of a Cessna Latitude.*

Although he excelled at his first place of employment, having risen quickly through the ranks to the position of Operations and Quality manager in just 12 years, Bo began looking for employment where he could further his career by taking on different challenges.



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