



Keith Pruitt

Model Kit Report

Annual Tool Edition

Tools are a welcome addition to any modeler's workshop.

Bob Smith Industries offers a line of adhesives which can be essential to scale modelers. As an added benefit, Bob Smith Industries also offers private labeling for dealers. With the same products inside, and BSI identified on the back label to allow customers to be sure of the quality, the bottles are available with the dealer's



Bob Smith Industries offers a wide variety of adhesives that will fit the needs of almost every hobbyist or crafter.

name on the label. Insta-Cure is extremely thin cyanoacrylate (CA) cement that cures in seconds, and can flow via capillary action into tight, well-fitting joints. Maxi-Cure is a very thick CA, and, when used with Insta-Set, a catalyst-type accelerator for instantly setting the cement, can be better than putty for filling seams. IC-Gel is a gel-type CA, which can be applied to vertical surfaces without running. Insta-Flex remains clear and maintains some flexibility even when cured solid.

For maximum strength, Quik-Cure 5 Minute Epoxy bonds surfaces quickly and securely. Whenever glue is needed for bonding diverse materials, Bob Smith Industries has a product that is likely to exceed expectations.

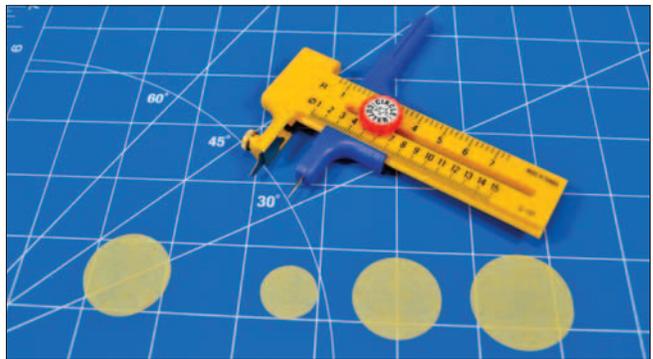
Flex-I-File Super Micro Tip Tweezers are constructed of stainless steel with extremely fine tips, providing precise control in parts handling and placement. The set includes three tweezers, with two straight tips and one curved tip.



Left: The new Alpha Abrasives Microbrushes have a flexible neck and are available in four sizes. Right: The Super Micro Tip Tweezers have extremely fine tips for precise control.

The new Alpha Abrasives Microbrushes have a flexible neck, which allows the brushes to be bent to fit into tight spaces. Offered in four different sizes, the fibers hold a tiny drop of liquid, so there is no waste. The Alpha Abrasives Microbrushes are available in packs of 25 or 100, or an assorted pack with 40 which contains 10 of each type.

The Hobbico Circle Cutter is an outstanding tool for cutting consistent circles in paper, vinyl, fabric or leather,



The Hobbico circle cutter is an outstanding tool for cutting consistent circles in a variety of materials.

plastic, or rubber. The adjustable radius can be set from 10mm to 150mm, allowing the Cutter to accurately repeat the cuts time and again. The Hobbico Circle Cutter is a perfect choice for cutting masking tape for wheel



The Hobbico Multi-Angle Hobby Vice is a versatile tool made of heavy cast aluminum with removable rubber jaw covers.

masks to use on scale aircraft, armor, and cars.

Hobbico's Flexible 18 inch Stainless Steel Ruler can be an invaluable tool for any modelers bench. Marked in increments as small as 1/128 inch, the ruler is sturdy and reliable, and is flexible enough to reach around a diameter as small as eight inches. Experienced modelers and scratch builders would greatly benefit from the accuracy and durability of the Hobbico Stainless Steel Ruler.

The Hobbico Multi-Angle Hobby Vice is an extremely versatile tool, made of heavy cast aluminum, with an enamel-coated body and chrome plated steel screws. The vise has jaws with removable rubber covers to protect delicate parts or materials. The ball attachment base allows the vice to pivot a full



Hobbico Master Mask is a latex film that is easy to cut into clean, sharp demarcation lines.

360 degrees, while holding objects safely and securely. Hobbico Master Mask is a liquid latex film for masking surfaces. Available in a wide-mouth three ounce jar, Master Mask can be brushed or sprayed and will dry to a rubbery consistency that is easy to cut into clean, sharp paint demarcation lines. Designed to be used on radio control cars, boats and airplanes, as well as model trains and plastic models, it is non-toxic and non-flammable, and cleans up easily with soap and water.

Italeri has just released its own brand of Italeri Acrylic Paints, available from **Model Rectifier Corporation**. The paints come in 87 different colors, plus clear available in Flat, Gloss, and Semi-gloss. The paint colors cover most of the usual base colors, as well as some of the more unique military colors. The 20cc paint bottles have a screw on cap, and feature a flip open top for dispensing drops of paint as needed. Italeri Acrylic Thinner is available in 35cc bottles with the same style of cap. These paints are a bit thicker than would normally be expected, but brush on from the bottle with veritable ease. Thinned at 30-40%, they flow through an airbrush beautifully. Paint coverage, when applied with either a paintbrush or



Italeri has released its own brand of acrylic paint that is available in 87 different colors plus clear.

an airbrush, is thin and opaque but maintains the very rich color. Italeri Acrylic Paints are fast drying on the painted surface, have little if any odor, are non-toxic, and clean up easily with soap and water. Many scale modelers today use acrylics exclusively, and Italeri Acrylic Paints will likely become a favorite soon.

Iwata Revolution TR2 is a pistol-grip double-action airbrush that is an excellent choice for modelers preferring the paint gun style. With a trigger action that controls first airflow, and then paint flow, it offers incredibly smooth feel and operation, while providing outstanding control of paint application.

The TR2 comes with the .5mm tip, and a large 1/2 ounce side-feed color cup, which allows for a greater volume of paint to be sprayed in a short time. This combination is excellent for primer coats, single color applications, or multiple subjects.

The airbrush comes with the Iwata Pistol Grip Filter to provide extra protection against moisture contamination, and the needle seals are solvent proof. There is also a Custom Grip Handle available with a textured-surface handgrip for



The Iwata Revolution TR2 is a pistol grip double action airbrush.



Airtool Texture airbrush templates are also available from Iwata.

even more comfort and control.

Artool Texture FX Freehand Airbrush Templates, also available from Iwata, are a great way for modelers to add unique and natural textures to their paint schemes. Designed by Gerald Mendez, the templates are solvent resistant, and should last for years with proper care and maintenance. The Artool Templates would allow for variations in background surfaces, rock or stone textures, splashes or splatters, surface effects for models or figures, and the list goes on and on. With the Organic Master Cosmic set, rotating or moving the template will create unique, one-of-a-kind random textures.

Squadron Products produces a wide variety of tools under its brand name. The Squadron Products Modeling



Scalpel Knife is based on the surgical tool, with a flat molded metal handle and removable blades. The Modeling Scalpel Knife is well balanced to be comfortable when held. For added safety, the flat handle design has the distinct advantage of not rolling off the workbench. There

Squadron Products offers a wide variety of tools under its brand name.

Blades available in the standard #11 size, made of carbon steel and individually wrapped in packs of five.

In its abrasives line, Squadron Products offers the Long Sanding Stick Value Pack, which includes five long tapered sanding sticks with one each in super fine, extra fine, fine, medium and coarse grits.

Stevens International offers the Lighted Double Lens Head Magnifier, which is a magnifying visor equipped with double lenses

and an extra round magnifying monocle, as well as two 2.2 volt LED lights. The Lighted Double Lens Head Magnifier is perfect for those areas where accessibility is difficult. For general use, the Lighted Double Lens Head Magnifier is an excellent addition to any modeler's workbench.



The Lighted Double Lens Head Magnifier offered by Stevens International features LED lights to aid with difficult lighting.

Testors offers its Aztek A3205 Airbrush Set, which includes the airbrush and 6' hose, along with one General Purpose (.40mm) nozzle, two different sized bottles, a color cup, instruction manual and video, and an air compressor adapter. The Aztek A320 is a single-action internal-mix airbrush, so the airflow is controlled by the trigger while the paint flow is controlled by adjusting the needle travel with a



The Testors Aztek airbrush line features a variety of interchangeable nozzle sizes and bottle cups.

knob on the body of the airbrush. This type of airbrush works well for primer and basecoats, on small to medium areas, as well as some fine detail work. The patented Aztek Nozzle System allows for quick and easy changes for different paint colors or types, while also offering greater simplicity in the cleaning process.



The Aztek A3205 Airbrush includes a general purpose nozzle and a video instruction manual.

Aztek offers accessories, including multiple interchangeable nozzles like the Fine Line Nozzle, General Detail Nozzle, Acrylic General Detail Nozzle, Acrylic High Flow Nozzle, General Detail Nozzle, and High Flow Nozzle, as well as various sizes of paint bottles and color cups. For a first-time airbrush user, or a beginning scale modeler, the Aztek A3205 Airbrush Set would be a great place to start.

Xuron Corporation produces a variety of tools that many modelers think they cannot live without. The Xuron 450 Tweezernose Pliers are an excellent tool that allows precise control, due to the size and shape of the jaws. Capable of gripping something as small as a human hair, the Tweezernose Pliers are strong enough to form wire.

The Xuron 450BN Bent Nose Pliers are virtually identical to the 450 Tweezernose Pliers, but have angled jaws, which allow better control for grasping and holding in spaces where the angle would be advantageous.

For the most gripping power, the Xuron 485FN Flat Nose Plier is a long nose plier with flat surfaces on the jaws, which provides a greater area of pressure to hold any part more securely. With the cushioned Xuro-Rubber grips and Light Touch return spring, all of these Xuron tools are comfortable to hold and easy to use. **HM**



Xuron Corporation produces a wide variety of tools that many modelers simply can't live without having in their toolbox.