

# V-Jet II\* Model 271 Brief Program Summary April 2009

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\* AKA Spike





#### The Sam Williams Plan: Revolutionary Turbofan Breakthrough





FJX vs. conventional turbofan

- Ultra-high bypass turbofan for General Aviation. Efficiency 25<sup>+</sup>% improvement
- One 20<sup>th</sup> the cost of conventional
  - 1/10<sup>th</sup> due omissions and parts count
  - 1/10<sup>th</sup> due mass production
- Engine weight ~ 2/3 of conventional
- The missing parts in a "one moving part" engine:
  - FADEC engine is controlled by the Aircraft's computer
  - Gears (starter/Gen, fuel/oil pumps are all integrated to main shaft)
  - Mounts ring mount fan shroud
  - Fan and turbines single-piece machined forgings
  - Plumbing eliminated via internal integrated design

## The Sam Williams Vision: Aircraft Applications for the New Propulsion

- All Categories included:
  - A Turbofan entry-level trainer The new 'Cessna 150' has a 48lb, 20k\$, 400 lb thrust high-bypass turbofan. Engine change done in 15 minutes.
  - The V-Jet II twin turbofan personal 4 place. Cost under 100k\$.
    Fuel cost competitive with recip propeller aircraft.
  - Four-engine Business Jets with scaled-up FJX-type engines. Low cost and high efficiency.
  - Airliners with low-cost, ultra-high bypass, low parts-count engines. Engine replacement during gate turn-around

The Goal - In a single generation, Obsolete propellers, for all aircraft categories

# V-Jet Program Timeline

- Sam Williams original concept, forward sweep, spike nose
   1985 NBAA convention V-Jet mockup, sized for FJ44s
- First Scaled Discussions and criteria Early 1995
  Mass-production, automotive style, no TC' d aircraft systems
- Scaled Design Study for V-Jet II May 1995.
- Tiny twin using the future FJX engine concept
  - Scaled helped Williams pitch NASA for GAP propulsion research contract.
- Scaled POC program contracted in Dec 1995.
  - Start fabrication ~ April 1996
  - First flight April 1997 using cruise-missile engines
  - Oshkosh flight unveiling July 1997
  - V-Jet II never flew with the new FJX engines

# History of the Design's Growth

- ~1994 Original Concept, Sam Williams
  - FJX engine 80-lb weight, 700-lb thrust, cost ~ 20k\$
  - Production Goal Aircraft price ~ 80k\$, 4-place.
- Scaled 1995 Design Study
  - Tight, 5-place cabin, two 85 lb engines, GW = 3,600 lb
- The POC program using Scaled M-271 design
  - Staggered cockpit, 5-place, GW = 3,700 lb (with FJX-1 engines)
- The Pronto Program at Williams
  - Cabin grows ~ 40% by volume, GW ~ 4,400 lb.
- Eclipse Program at Albuquerque
  - Conventional systems and aluminum structure, GW ~ 4,900 lb
  - Williams EJ-22 production engine, still at 85 lb, now too small for Eclipse
  - Weight grows to 6,034 lb at certification with new P & W engines
  - "Just a small Learjet", none of original revolutionary concepts intact.





# A plan to Replace Sandwich Fuselage Structure with Geodesic Structure

Pioneered by Mosquito and Boomerang























## **Propulsion Integration**







The tiny cruise missile engines installed in nacelles sized for the ultra-high bypass ratio FJX engine design









### Six-Bolt Wing Attachment



#### **Static Thrust Measurement**



maingear ipg







setup.jpg

nosegear.jpg





#### First Flight April 1997

















#### The entire company



#### The V-Jet II test team

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