



The latest aircraft from Evektor

The SportStar MAX, standard and IFR version, are the latest models of the SportStar aircraft to be produced by Evektor-Aerotechnik Inc. KiwiFlyer Correspondent Penny Belworthy recently spoke to New Zealand Distributor Colin Marshall about the development and features of this new LSA category aircraft, one of which will soon be arriving in New Zealand.

THE SPORTSTAR aircraft is said to be the very first aircraft approved by the FAA in the United States under the S-LSA category. Colin explains that an S-LSA aircraft is a Light Sport Aircraft that has been built by the manufacturer to ASTM (American Society of Testing and Materials) standards. Once approved for Part 61 flight training by CAA, this category will open up the opportunity for the aircraft to be operated for hire or reward as well as PPL training.

SportStar MAX Evolution and Performance

The SportStar MAX is the result of a redesign to the original SportStar, in part by adding a foot to each wing tip. The fuselage has a semi-monocoque construction with new reinforcements and duralumin skins. This means that the skin carries most of the stresses, a result achieved with the use of composite materials to add more strength to the already sleek shape. The SportStar MAX now supports an all up weight of 600kgs or 1320lbs and offers one of the highest useful load capacity ratings among light sport aircraft on the market.

The SportStar MAX's new look with elegant contours combines the aerodynamics of composite materials with the benefits of an advanced all-metal airframe structure. This structure is riveted as well as bonded for improved fatigue characteristics and long service life. A

further benefit is smoother and quieter flight because drumming and flexing are absent.

The improvements that have been made to this aircraft have also resulted in improved performance and handling. For example the take off distance from a sealed strip has been reduced to 620ft and landing to 590ft. The cruise speed has increased and maximum range has been extended.

Another new feature is a sturdy composite tip-up canopy. The canopy shape is aerodynamically optimised to reduce drag and is attached to the fuselage by two pins, on which it may be tilted forward. The weight of the canopy is counterbalanced by two gas struts, which allow it to open effortlessly and the latch has also been improved.

The cockpit interior has also been altered with the addition of eye-ball

vents, a heating system that distributes the air inside the cockpit and a windshield defrost and demist system which includes the sides for safer taxiing.

Another feature in the cockpit is a state of the art glass avionics suite which includes the usual flight, NAV/COM, engine instruments, as well as a Trutrack EFIS and EMS in the IFR versions.

In addition, all new Evektor aircraft carry a 2 year or first 200 hours warranty.

For more information

Colin Marshall is the New Zealand distributor for both the Evektor SportStar MAX and SportStar. While I was talking to him about the new SportStar MAX I enquired how his own SportStar aircraft was performing. He has now completed 180 hours of very enjoyable and faultless flying. Colin says that everyone who has experienced the aircraft as either a passenger or pilot has enjoyed effortless

handling characteristics both in the air and on the ground, exceptional visibility and the roomy and comfortable cockpit. Colin loves to take it flying any chance he gets.

Contact Colin for more information or a trial flight in the SportStar ZK-MAC which is presently for sale to make room for Colin's new SportStar MAX. Phone 03 312 5402 or 027 412 5402. email: colin-m@xtra.co.nz or visit: www.evektor.com



The new S-LSA Category SportStar MAX aircraft which is available in either standard or IFR versions offers improved performance and features over its predecessor.



Colin Marshall's SportStar SL, ZK-MAC ready to take to the skies for another enjoyable flight. MAC is currently for sale to make room for the new SportStar MAX pictured above.

New Features including IFR

Colin is very excited about the new features that have been added to the SportStar MAX, the main one being the IFR version which opens up IFR flying and instructing in this sports aircraft for IFR rated pilots and instructors. Already two IFR SportStar MAX aircraft are on their way to the United States for private owners needing to do just that sort of flying.