

POLEN™

EFFICIENCY on THE MOVE™

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Legendary Experimental Aircraft Draws a Crowd - Even in an Ice Storm

Granbury, Texas - January 10, 2007 – What would lure more than fifty people away from their fireplaces and Saturday afternoon football game to brave an ice storm and spend two hours sitting in a garage?

In Granbury, Texas, more that fifty people did just that for an opportunity to see and hear about the legendary Polen Special Experimental Aircraft. Richard Keyt, the Special's current owner, was hosting the January meeting of Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 983 and nobody wanted to miss it, regardless of the weather.

Keyt's presentation, "**Efficiency on The Move**" outlined the Polen Special's evolution as an aviation legend and icon of aircraft efficiency. Today advanced design and manufacturing technologies are helping put new muscle into the Specials' legendary performance. Guests were treated to the inspiring story of how one man (Dennis Polen), working in his garage with little more than hand tools, surplus components and a genius for innovation, built the world's fastest four-cylinder vehicle.

Debuting on the cover of the September 1973 issue of the Experimental Aircraft Association's [Sport Aviation](#) magazine, the aircraft was instantly famous. More remarkable yet, this world record holding aircraft, built more than three decades ago, remains undefeated in competition against newer, state-of-the-art racers. The single seat, all metal aircraft, powered by a small, 4-cylinder engine is capable of speeds in excess of 320 mph and altitude over 20,000 feet.

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In 2003 Dick Keyt founded the Dennis Polen Educational Foundation to bridge the ever-widening gap between theoretical engineering education and practical application, providing students an opportunity to share in Polen projects and giving them hands-on practical experience. The first Foundation intern has recently graduated with a degree in Aerospace Engineering and is a pilot for a regional airline and an active member of the Polen team.

Through partnership with the Polen Foundation, University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) students are using a computer model of the Polen Special to analyze aerodynamic properties with computational fluid dynamics (CFD) software. Their work provides the Polen team with valuable data and students and professors with real-world challenges to apply their knowledge.

The Leica division of Hexagon AB Global Technology Group, recently partnered with the Polen team to conduct a full-surface 3D laser scan of the Special. For the Polen team, the scan provided data to analyze aircraft performance and to design, test, and manufacture parts to improve aerodynamics, function, strength and reduce weight. Leica, in turn received a highly demonstrable case-study. The project was so successful that the Polen Special became the centerpiece for the Leica/Hexagon Metrology booth at the International Manufacturing Technology Show (IMTS) at McCormick Place in Chicago. During the show the aircraft was seen by hundreds of Hexagon customers and prospects, providing Hexagon staff the opportunity to demonstrate how their technology solves complex, real-world problems. The show was an unprecedented success for Leica/Hexagon.

The Polen team is now gearing up for new race and record challenges. Additional updates to aerodynamic efficiency and performance are sure to rely on 3D scans, computer aided design and manufacturing, computational fluid dynamic analysis, digital dynamic stress testing and rapid prototyping to optimize the results.

The Polen team has also begun work on **Stage3** (Advanced Efficiency) replacement for the Polen Special. The new aircraft is designed to go farther, faster, more quietly, on less fuel while being more environmentally friendly than it's legendary older sibling. When the Polen Company says "**EFFICIENCY on THE MOVE,**" they mean it.

Polen is a products research and development company focused on efficient transportation solutions and helping private enterprise address today's complex energy and environmental issues. We are committed to extending the Polen Special legacy of efficiency and innovation into the 21st Century. For more information, please visit www.polen-co.com

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