

(12 April 2008)

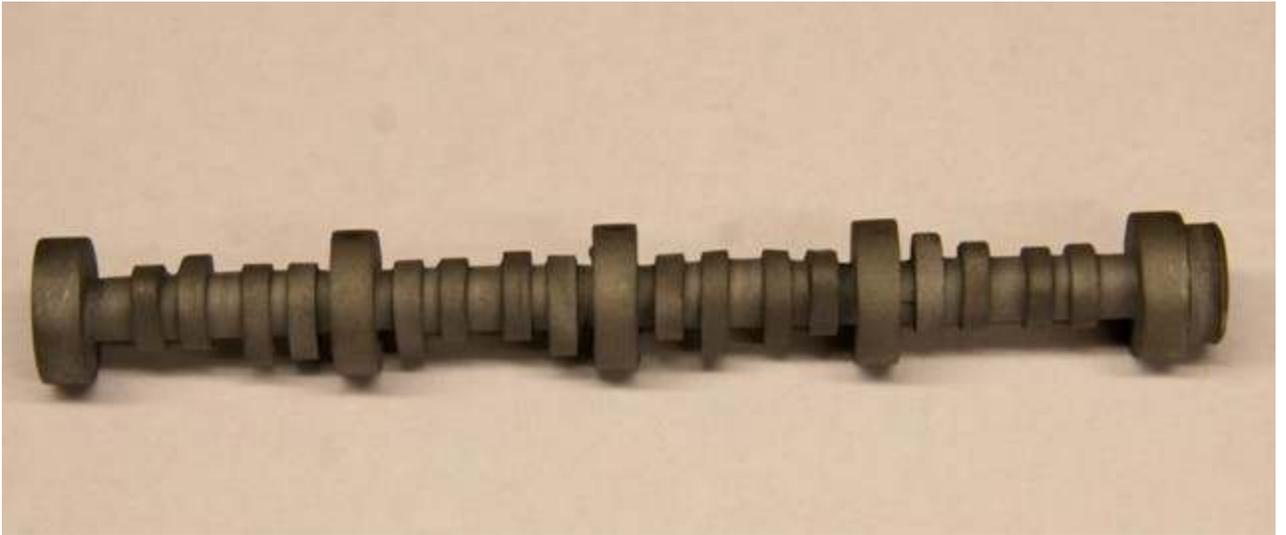
Pic #1



Pic #2



Pic #3



Unfortunately, I have not given an update in several weeks. Just in case you were not aware, the largest remote controlled model show in the US is in Toledo, Ohio the first weekend in April. Preparation for the show always takes more time than anticipated. Picture #1 shows what happens when you get in a hurry. While getting ready for the show, I accidentally dropped part of the engine display on my the small finger of my left hand and severed the nerves, which immediately left my finger without any sensation of feeling. This happened on Thursday afternoon the 27th of March. After a quick trip to the emergency room and a suggestion that I see a specialist on Friday, the doctor said that he could do "Micro surgery" to reattach the severed nerves on Monday the 31st at 12:00. Keep in mind that I had the get everything ready for the show and leave on Thursday. After recovery and a lot of help from my son, brother, and wonderful employed, we got everything packed up and ready for the show. I forgot to tell you that the surgeon said the I should keep the arm elevated for at least 72 hours. This was not without its problems and difficulties. The show was for three days and after returning on Sunday evening, unpacking on Monday, responding to all the accumulated email, getting everything back to "normal" in the shop, another trip to the surgeon for a check up, things are slowly starting to return to my day to day routine of "controlled chaos". I hope you understand why I have not had time to do an update and besides, it is very difficult to type when you cannot feel your small finger. With any luck the surgeon is hopeful that the feeling should return within 3 months. Let's hope that it is sooner. By the way, the show was a great success and several orders for the new Stinger engines were taken.

Picture #2 shows a partial box of starter gear blanks. These items will be sent out to have the gear teeth cut on each blank. On Wednesday, the day before I went to the trade show I received the prototype camshaft from the foundry as seen in picture #3. This was a very important item and needed to be check to make sure all the tolerances were correct. Although I have not had a chance to do a finish grind, it appears that everything is very close to size. I will be sending some additional waxes of the camshaft to the foundry for some more samples this week. As the saying goes, "keep your fingers crossed". A lot of time and effort has been spend on this modification to the engine.

