On July 15, 1975, three American astronauts lifted off from Pad 39A at Florida’s Kennedy Space Center. Their destination was a rendezvous with two Soviet cosmonauts who had launched earlier that day aboard a Soyuz booster from the Baikonur Cosmodrome. For the next three days the combined crew conducted experiments, exchanged gifts, shared meals, engaged in joint television broadcasts, and demonstrated that international spaceflight was possible. The Apollo-Soyuz Test Project laid the foundation for today’s International Space Station.

The US astronauts who participated in the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project boosted into orbit aboard a Saturn 1B rocket, as two stage vehicle that had previously been used for the Apollo and Skylab programs. The Saturn 1B was developed at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, and was built by Chrysler Corporation.

**Difficulty Considerations**

This model was constructed at 1/70 scale using the Semroc kit as a basis, which is itself based on the late '70s Estes Saturn 1B kit. This kit was regarded as one of the more difficult kits to build in the Estes fleet, and certainly more were started than were finished. The simulated Apollo capsule supplied with the Semroc kit was replaced with an injection molded component sourced from Apogee, which exhibits far superior scale characteristics. Construction this complex model is primarily from paper tubes and paper wraps. A particularly difficult task was cutting and fitting the scalloped shroud at the base of the first stage. All of the black roll markings were carefully masked and airbrushed using acrylic paint. Note that the out-of-sequence roll pattern found on several of the fins is accurate for the SA-210 round, as damaged fins were replaced with fins from a backup vehicle, with no regard to maintaining the continuity of the pattern. Many of the surface details supplied with the kit were discarded. Instead, master parts were cut and shaped from styrene, and molds were created from these components. Resin parts were then pulled from these molds. In addition, the antenna boards were scratchbuilt from styrene sheet and shapes.

**Flight Profile**

The model will lift off using a cluster of four C6-3 motors. At apogee the Apollo capsule will separate, and the booster and capsule will recover under separate parachutes. After the flight, data from a small barometric altimeter can be processed to determine the maximum altitude reached, much like the data telemetry and return capabilities of the actual vehicle.

**References**

The primary reference used for construction and painting of this model were drawings of the Saturn 1B vehicle as found in Rockets of the World (4th ed.), written by aerospace historian Peter Alway. These drawings were supplemented by photographs found on various online NASA image repositories.
Saturn 1B SA-210 Data Pack
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