VIPER I ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

AIMSWORTH VIPER I,
F-16 C BLOCK 50/52

VERSION 1.0

5/21/02

Skin / Badges / Pictures Courtesy of Jerry “mouse” Bielsma, Pongprhom “rama” Sanitwong and last but not least, sukit “smart” Sittisudjatum.

Document History

The following table lists each version of this document, what changes were involved in each, and who requested and made the changes.

Version	Date	Requested by	Completed by	Description of Changes
1.0	05/21/02			Initial Document

Contents

WELCOME

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Hello Simmer,

First, we would like to thank you for placing your trust in our products and us.

We continually work hard to create the best and most affordable solutions in realistic cockpit environments for today's demanding military simulations. This is an effort that never ends and, as always, we welcome your comments for improving future products.

We hope you will enjoy our products and recommend us to your flight sim buddys.

Happy hunting and check six.

Jurgen Hemmann
President Aimsworth Corporation

How to Get in Touch with Us

Mail: Aimsworth Corporation Co., LTD., Suite 704 S&B Tower, 6868/6 Pun Road, Silom, Bangrak, Bangkok 10500, Thailand.

Phone: + 662 637 7417-9

Fax: + 662 637 7420

E-mail:

General information:	viper@aimsworth.com
Sales department:	sales@aimsworth.com
Technical support:	sukit@aimsworth.com

Office hours are: Monday - Saturday, 09:00 - 17:30

Time differences: we are 7 hours ahead of GMT.

For example: 09:00 our time is 03:00 in London
09:00 our time is 22:00 in New York

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

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Before you get started: Fiberglass is a material that reacts to temperature and humidity. Before shipment, each Viper is test assembled for correct fitting. However, the components may get slightly out of shape during transport. This is a characteristic of fiberglass which cannot be avoided with such large pieces. Gentle pressure applied in the right location will help. Also, be aware that final curing of the materials may take as long as 3-4 months. The pieces will settle in the assembled position within a few days. More information on this in covered in chapter 3.

So Let's Get the Viper Ready!

Step 1: Getting Started

Clear the work area, or the place where the pit will be located, from all unnecessary items, such as electrical cabling, etc. It's always a good idea to cover the floor with some old carpet or cardboard to avoid scratches to the parts.

Step 2: Unpacking

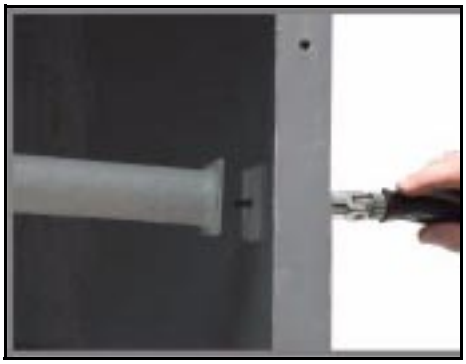
Unpack all parts carefully from the crate in which they arrived. Please Dispose of or recycle all packaging materials properly. A pair of additional hands is not really necessary, but greatly reduces the time needed and also makes for more fun!

Step 3: Viper Body

Place the upper body half on the lower body half and fasten the screws as shown below. Tighten the top and bottom screws first before you secure the rest.

Step 4: Floor Supports

Assemble both the left and right floor supports in each body half.



Step 5: Body Assembly

Assemble both body halves, starting with the top – front screw. Again, tighten a few screws throughout the entire body length first, before you tighten the rest.

Step 6: Floor Installation

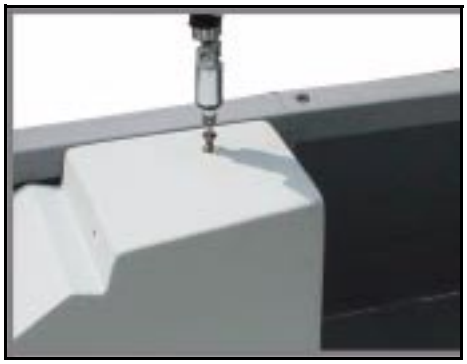
Place the floor inside the assembled body-shell with the high part in front. Attach the floor to the two floor support struts via the enclosed screws. Then attach the floor to the ends of the body-shell with the two screws on the back.

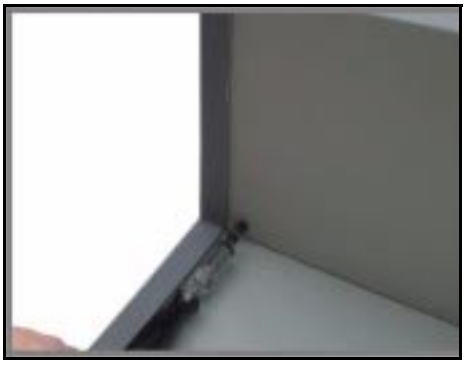
Step 7: Accessories

If you are installing our Cougar Mod, instrument panels, sound systems, etc., please install your cables or parts now! You will save yourself a great deal of trouble if you plan your peripheral layout at this time.

Step 8: Side Consoles

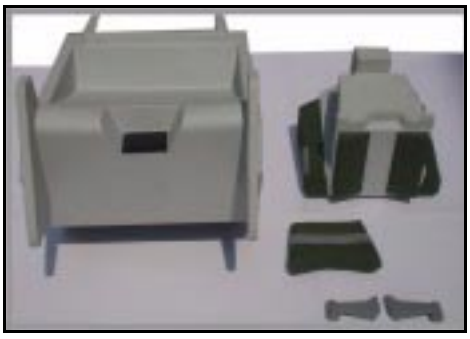
Slide the side consoles into position, ends first. Then tighten each console to the body in the following sequence: the top fixture, floor/console fixtures and then the two back fixtures.





Step 9: Basic ACES II

The basic ACES II seat assembly is rather easy. Shown below are the pieces included in the Viper I and Basic seat kits.



Place the backrest into the base seat and fasten the four screws.

Attach the small parachute pack with the four screws to the parachute container and place the whole unit on top of the backrest. Secure with screws as shown below.

Last, but not least, attach the pitot arms on to the parachute container with the screws as shown below.

Step 10: Seat Upgrades

Now to the ACES II seat upgrades packs. This seat preparation is only required if you are implementing some sort of sound system or have ordered the optional seat upgrade packs. If you do not have these, please skip to step 11 now.

So what tools do you need for this step? Nothing other than a drill, a metal file and some sandpaper to smooth any rough edges. Please read chapter 3 for some more tips on working with fiberglass.

You should start with seat pack 2 and the three levers. Please have a look at the picture below for the exact positioning:

Please only prepare, but do not mount the levers as you can do this together with the seat pack 3 installation, this will avoid accidental damage to the levers. Now to seat pack 3:

This upgrade consists of the complete oxygen system for the left and right sides. You will have to drill a number of holes for the oxygen hoses and other parts. It's easiest to start with the two lower left-hand side parts and the oxygen bottle.

Drill the holes accordingly and test how they fit. Mark the positions for the other parts and oxygen hose holders and drill accordingly.

And this is the finished left-hand side of the oxygen system.

Now to the right-hand side: Use the same process, except for some additional holes. Again, prepare the lower oxygen hose hole first. Then the upper, and so on.

Below is the final oxygen system.

Finally there is seat pack 3: This is the piece de resistance. A perfect replica of the back of a real ACES II seat. Fix the two plates on to the seat with the screws included.

Step 11: Seat Installation

So, now that the seat is fitted out, let's install it in the pit. Although the seat is lighter than the old Mk. I model, some help at this time would be a good idea (unless your name is Arnold Schwarzenegger). The seat has four positions. This should fit even a big guy. We know…. it's not a 100% realistic, but it's the best compromise between price and functionality.

So far – so good. Have a test sit and check that you can reach the rudder pedals and HOTAS.

Step 12: Panels

Now comes the center panel/ICP/MFDs. No matter if you have ordered our instrument sticker set, the panel set and/or the real ICP/MFDs, now is the time to install them. This will be easier if you ordered the pre-drilled center panel. Please take your time and carefully plan ahead. Consider cabling issues, further expansion, etc.

Everything ready? Then lets install it. Fix the center panel with the two bottom screws first, then the upper two.

Step 13: Glare Shields

We have two glare shields offered for the Viper I: The first is the authentic one which is designed for simmers that either have a wall mounted monitor/plasma TV or a projection system. The second glare shield allows you to place a computer monitor on the glare shield.

Please check again that all cables are located where you want them, that the HOTAS and rudder pedals work and anything else you may have installed earlier is functioning the way it should.

Here again you may want the help of a friend, as the installation is a bit tricky sometimes due to warping of the glare shield. Fix one side first, then the other.

The following picture shows the smooth setup between the body, the center panel and the glare shield

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All right then, here are some tips from our master molder:

Tools needed: A basic set of tools is included in the kit. If you do not plan to modify or fiddle around with your pit, then don't buy additional tools. The only thing you will need is an electric drill, a metal file (half-round) and some sandpaper.

Materials used: We use only high-grade industrial fiberglass mats that are specially woven for us. The resins used are again something special, but if you are making some changes to the body later, don't worry, most good mats and resins are compatible with our materials.

Cutting fiberglass: A jig / dremel saw will do just fine. Use a fine blade in any case and wear protective goggles and a mask. The fine saw dust is full of as the name implies, glass particles. This applies also when filing or sandpapering the materials.

Gluing: Most glues unfortunately do not work with fiberglass. You will have to use resin and hardener. Please observe the manufacturer's instructions carefully.

Painting: I have a scratch, what can I do? No problem. Sandpaper (1000 wet paper) the area, clean and apply a fine coat of acrylic MATT lacquer. Want to change the paint scheme on your Viper? Simply use the wet sandpaper to roughen the surface a bit and you are ready to paint. Use any good acrylic paint.

A Hot Tip: Weather your Viper and it will look even more realistic!

Drilling: Use a fine drill first and work your way up SLOWLY! Fiberglass can easily break.

General precautions: As with all tools and chemicals, wear protective gear and work in a well ventilated room. If you are not sure you are doing it right, ask an expert.

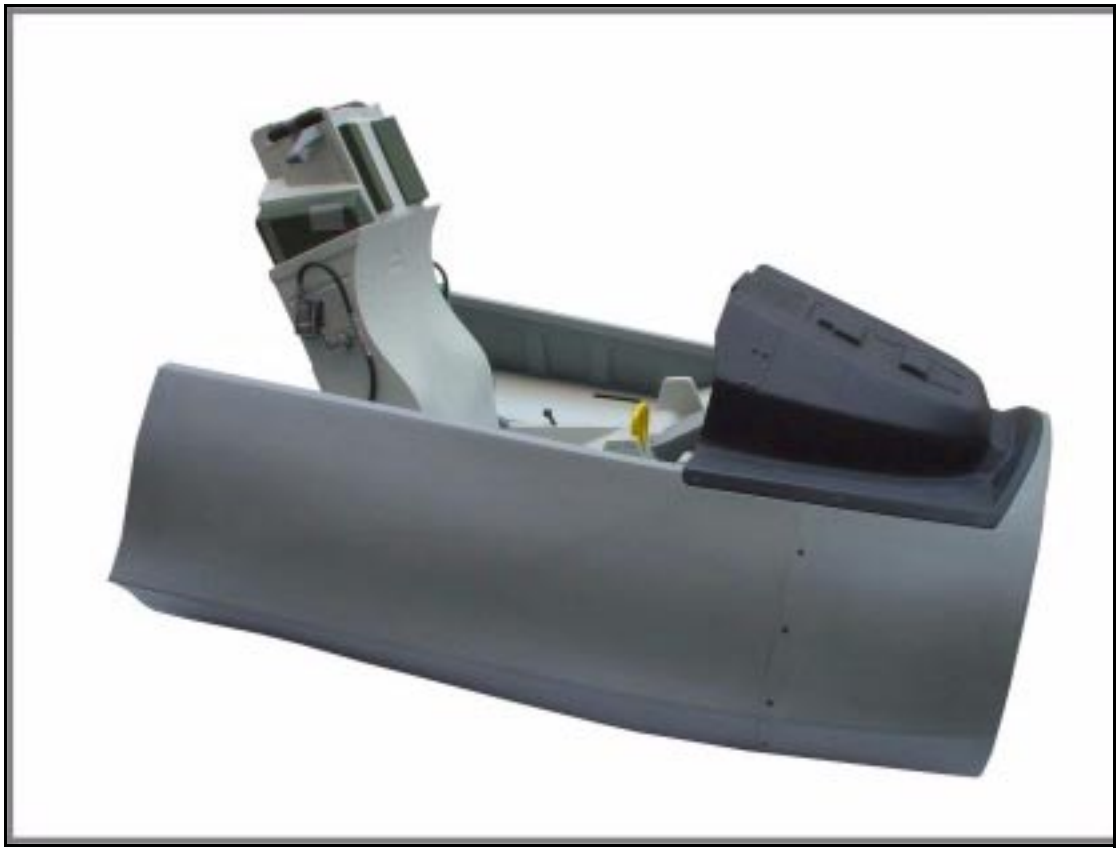
You're Done!

Connect everything to your computer and take off. You will agree with us, that once you fly your favorite bird from a real pit, nothing else compares.

The Aimsworth team wishes you many happy hours and hopes to hear from you with words and pictures of your setup.

Check six

The Aimsworth Team



Picture shows the Viper I with all optional upgrades and the projection glare shield

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Viper I Assembly Instructions
Aimsworth Corporation Co., Ltd.,
Suite 704 S&B Tower • 6868/6 Pun Road • Silom, Bangrak • Bangkok Thailand 10500
Phone + 662 637 7417-9 • Fax + 662 637 7420