

What's the latest on Rotax 2 Stroke engines ?

The Rotax 377, 447 and the 503 have been discontinued for several years now. Support for the engines and replacement parts are still available however, on occasion some of the parts have been backordered but then eventually received.

We purchase all of our Rotax engines and replacement parts from the two major USA Rotax Engine Distributors.

The R-582 engine. In 2021 we were told that engine was going to be discontinued but parts would be available for 10 years.

Today is November 2023. We have R-582 engines in stock and apparently they are still available.

Gearboxes are another story.

Currently we are able to supply the "B" gearbox with the 2.58 to1 ratio.

For the "B" box the 2.58 ratio is the only ratio available.

Majority of flight operations the B box works very well on the R-582 engine.

This combination is typically used with the 66" Ultra II 3 blade propeller.

Currently the "E" gearbox (with integrated electric starter) is only available with 2.62 to 1 ratio. So what does this mean?

The ratio's listed above are good for stock configuration aircraft operating in a typical environment. High altitude, heavily loaded aircraft or planes operating on floats would prefer the added "power" of a lower gear ratio.... 3.47 to 1.

Unfortunately, the 3.47 gears for the "E" box are not available thru the domestic importers. I have recently been informed that the gears may be obtainable from sources outside the USA.

"C" Gearbox. This is the only gearbox that can accept the Clutch. We have seen a few listed on E-bay from a supplier in the UK. If you can find a "C" gearbox the ideal gear ratio is the 3.47 to 1 ratio. If the electric starter is desired, the GPL can be fitted to the magneto end of the engine. With the GPL starter you can also retain the recoil pull starter.

So. Please accept this document as the situation we are dealing with in relation to the gearbox situation. We are constantly searching for "C" gearboxes and lower ratio gears for the "E" box. It is not uncommon for the end-user to locate a gearbox and mate it to the R-582 engine that we supply.

We are happy to consult if you have any questions