Sonex Builders & Pilots Foundation



Tool Review – Homemade Laser Finder

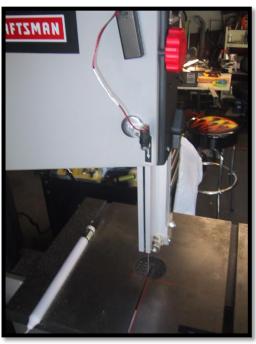
Written by Lee Forshee September 19, 2013

A couple of months ago a builder had a tip for using a laser to find holes on the skin for dimpling. While dimpling, you just center the cross-line laser on the dimple die. When you center the cross-line on a

hole, the hole just drops onto the male dimple die. The builder I spoke with had to cannibalize his craftsman drill press to get the 2 lasers and battery box. I knew there was a better way and did some research. I found all the parts using 1 laser, with a crossbeam lens, and used magnets to mount it on the c-frame or on any other tools. In the case of the drill press, you need to move from hole to hole or line something up and this setup works great.



I decided to see if there might be a market with builders and called Mike at Cleveland tools. He liked it and I am waiting for the parts to start selling the "make it yourself kit". It is



very simple and any builder can do it in half an hour. It will sell for about \$20 through Cleveland Tool, and I may also put it up on e-bay.

I know others have used lasers they scrounged for similar uses, but nobody seems to have ever made up a tool to sell. If you go out to try to find the parts some are hardware store easy to get but the laser and battery box aren't easy buying only 1 piece. The first one I built cost about \$50 plus shipping, hours on the internet and many trips to the hardware store. Cleveland had a brief mention of it on their monthly hangout webinar a few weeks ago and it got good response.

