

PROJECT

WORDS AND PHOTOS DAVID BAKER



When HPI released the Savage, I wonder if they realized it would become one of the most common platforms used by those of us in the hobby that like to tinker. Kershaw Designs uses the platform for several of their large-scale electric conversions. The Stalwart is one of them. This huge beast only weighs in at about 16 lbs. ready to run. When powered by a brushless motor the size of a soup can, that light weight is a huge benefit.

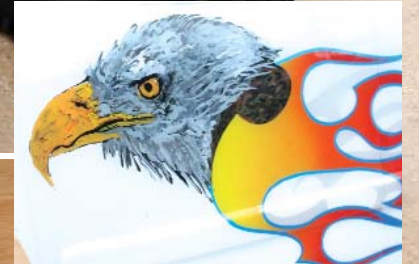
While many of the components come from other manufacturers, Kershaw has designed their own chassis plates, suspension arms and gearboxes. These trucks are built on an as-ordered basis and no two are alike since the end user gets to pick and choose the components they want in their truck. So basically this version of the Stalwart is one example of what you could end up with.

KERSHAW DESIGNS

STALWART V3.1



Dan Fischer, the man behind Kershaw Designs, gives his Stalwart creation a little scale. This is a prototype and Dan tells me the final production run of the arms will actually make this even wider.



Some of the most unique paint jobs I've seen on Lexan bodies come from custompaintedrcbodies.com. Hand-painted images demonstrate tremendous artistic talent. Check out some other cool bodies at their eBay store, Level3-RC.



The TP Power motor is a huge 56x92mm. This 1100Kv unit will handle the 8S LiPo and even gives you change. The large pinion gear shown above helps protect the drivetrain from the massive power of the motor.



Kershaw's direct drive gearbox features a Traxxas Revo slipper unit and is designed for the Savage platform. The Stalwart V3.1 uses an improved version that encloses the gears. My experience with this gearbox has been great. It provides solid performance and so far has been bulletproof.



For large-scale electric beasts you can't go wrong with the Mamba XL from Castle Creations. Its data logging feature keeps track of crucial information to make sure your equipment is running safely within its limits. With 8S LiPo, plugged in power is not an issue.



SPI Racing Wheels created this unique set of wheels specifically for this build. These super light aluminum wheels have a 17mm hex. If you've ever seen a set of SPI wheels you know the machining is impeccable. These are mounted up to CEN's huge pin style tires.

FINAL THOUGHTS

How fast? Is that what you want to know? How is 56mph? The Stalwart is light on its wheels, flies level and has all the speed it needs. If you want big, want electric and want to have a say in what equipment goes into your truck you need to check out kershawdesigns.com for plenty of action videos to push you off the fence. 🏁



Links
Castle Creations, castlecreations.com, (785) 883-4519
CEN/Genka Trading Corp., cenracing.com, (714) 792-1923
Custompaintedrcbodies.com
HPI Racing, hpiracing.com, (949) 753-1099
Kershaw Designs, kershawdesigns.com
SPI Racing Wheels, spiracingwheels.com
TP Power, TPPower.com
Traxxas Corp., traxxas.com, (972) 265-8000

For more information, please see our source guide on page 105.