



Latest update: 09-03-03 If you use caching in your browser, you may want to hit "Refresh", since this is updated a lot. To download a PDF version of this page, (796k) click [here](#).

Why am I writing this article now? Val'a Fusco (Fusco Aircraft) has breached our contract, and I am no longer compelled to keep any of this information to myself. If you're familiar with this saga, skip to the next paragraph. If you're not, you can view the Fusco-related discussions on RC Universe, by clicking [here](#) or [here](#). (two separate threads) The design article is on my "Reviews" page, [here](#).

There's much more to follow... Several people associated with Fusco Aircraft in one way or another have begun to communicate with me, and it's been "enlightening". I will not publish anyone else's name without their express permission. So, if you have information you'd like to add to this page, anonymously or by name, [email me](#). As far as I know, none of the Fusco distributors bears any guilt whatsoever in this ordeal. It seems to me that all the "bad news" is from Val'a Fusco.

A word about my intentions here...

I have never contacted either a Fusco customer or a Fusco distributor on my own. They all contacted me first. So, there has been no "sobotage" of any kind on my part. Second, I was, and am, perfectly willing to honor our contract. The reason I'm publishing the truth here is twofold. First, Val'a Fusco has breached the contract by not paying me. Second, he has repeatedly lied to me about when he would pay me, as you'll see in the documentation that follows. I'm publishing this to preserve my own integrity with those that know me, and also to show those who have had the same problems, how things have gone with me. It's my opinion that to withhold information at this time would be to participate in these deceptions myself, and since I intend to stay involved in this hobby, both publicly and privately, I cannot participate in the deception, especially since another company, unknown to me, is apparently now being contracted by Fusco to do the actual fabrication.

My agreement with Fusco Aircraft started as you might imagine...Val'a Fusco contacted me as a "manufacturer" and asked me to do some graphics work to modernize his web site, July 27th, 2002. I did the work (banners and CAD images) in return for a 1/5th scale Long EZ kit and a 1/4 scale "Quickie" kit. I received a partial Long EZ kit, and to this day, over a year later, have never received the missing parts for the "Long EZ" kit, or the "Quickie" kit.

Between July and November of 2002, we had planned to release the "Fusco Trainer", but Val'a changed his mind. In November of 2002, he contracted me to build the Berkut, and I said that I could do it. Based on my previous projects, I also told him I thought I could do it in 90 to 120 days. The next day, he jumped the gun and started advertising, before I had even drawn a single line on paper, and without telling me he was going to do that. I got my first email from Val'a Fusco saying that he had sold a Berkut on November 20th, 2002. Next, Val'a created a "Special" deal... Those of you who know what these projects cost will also recognize that his "introductory offer" was not profitable. Those kits ordered early were virtual "giveaways". Just so you know, I was not ever a financial partner with Fusco Aircraft. I was an independent contractor, doing the Berkut project for a fixed fee,

and with no "royalties" attached to kit sales. Our contract was pretty simple. It basically states that he will pay me a (small) bi-weekly salary, and pay for both the supplies and shipping. My salary during the project is part of the total "buyout" price, so the longer the project took, the lower my "buyout" payment became.

Many times, I've urged Val'a to "come clean" with the public, and tell them the truth about the timeline of the project, but he says he "can't, because it would ruin his reputation", and it seems that he prefers to lie instead. I backed Val'a up during the many heated discussions on RCU and elsewhere, regarding shipping delays, because I believed he would follow through on the many things we discussed, and in the end, customers would not only receive a great Berkut kit, but would then be able to buy King Air kits, Avanti kits, and many others. It seemed like a good opportunity for me to get these large projects built faster than I could afford to do it on my own. He knows nothing about RC modeling, and I knew that, but believed that he would make the effort to learn, during the process. He has always claimed to be a "marketing expert", "previously making six figures", living in a 6000 sq. ft. house", etc. ...Live and learn.

Contrary to the text that remains on the Fusco web site, (most of which, I wrote) and the (cloned) sites of his distributors, NONE of my designs are owned by Fusco Aircraft. That includes the Berkut, because I have not been paid in full yet, and my contract specifies that Fusco Aircraft does not own the exclusive rights to sell the kit until I've been paid in full. The King Air, Avanti, Trainer/STOL project, and ALL other designs shown here on NextCraft™ are exclusively mine, and have no connection whatsoever with Fusco Aircraft. No contracts were ever created regarding any of my designs except for the Berkut, and that one is no good, since it is breached by his non-payment.

There were many setbacks during the project that we couldn't have planned for. Subcontractors failed to deliver parts on time, the canard was an issue, the retracts were an issue, we had some chemical incompatibility problems, and Val'a didn't have the budget to really do it right, when it came to some of the more expensive needs, such as tooling resin. We made it through all that, and even with marginal molds, figured that if we would just "get a few out the door", that future improvements would finance themselves. (more and better molds, etc.) The plane does fly very well, so from a design point of view, it was a success. That's about all I have to say about the experience that's good.

Because I spent most of my life as a musician, and have been screwed many times, I made a point of keeping all the emails exchanged between us, and have also backed them up at two remote locations, for safety. There are over 1100 emails, over 900 photos, and many phone conversations, which serve as the evidence of exactly what happened during the last year. Here's a copy of an email I sent to him on 08-18-03, which he has not responded to:

From: Mike James <drummer@alaska.com>
Date: Mon Aug 18, 2003 2:14:10 PM America/Anchorage
To: Val'a Fusco <service@fuscoaircraft.com>
Subject: Berkut final payment

Val'a,

Based on your actions, the obvious lies in your email and phone communication, and primarily, the fact that you've stopped paying me our contracted salary, you have breached our contract. At this point, judging by your actions, and what I'm reading about you on the internet, it's obvious that you don't intend to pay me. Each email contains another excuse, and you never follow through on anything. So...

If I don't have the \$2300 you owe me in the next few days, all bets are off. I'll be publishing the truth about my experience with you, both on my web site and other internet forums. Further legal action from me depends on what you do in the next couple of days. You cannot continue to lie to me and your customers, and expect to get away with it.

If you're not a thief, now is the time to prove it.

Mike James

MIKE JAMES
Email: drummer@alaska.com
Web site: <http://www.nextcraft.com>

Val'a Fusco has recently posted more of his usual promises on RC Universe, (after the above email) which proves that he has internet access and email capability. Yet, he has failed to contact me. I've informed him that all future communication must be in writing, or via email, so that I have a record of it. All communication stopped shortly after that.

Elvis has left the building...

Based on recent events, it appears that Val'a Fusco has abandoned me, his customers, and his distributors. To my knowledge, not one single Berkut has been shipped. Beginning several months ago, my previously "ok" arrangement with Val'a Fusco turned sour, when he wrote me a check that bounced. He corrected that pretty quickly, denying any knowledge that my bank had sent it to his bank 3 times, before declaring it unpayable. From that time forward however, I went for weeks at a time without being paid, and then he finally stopped paying me entirely. At this time, Val'a Fusco owes me over \$2000 for work on the Berkut, and based on his many broken promises and lies, I am withholding some final parts he needs, until I'm paid in full. There are rumors that "some company in Michigan" is producing some Berkut parts, but we don't know who this is yet.

As of today, Val'a Fusco has been completely out of touch with me, either by phone, email, or other method, since 08-14-03, when he told me "I have the funds on the way and were sent from someone else and I will call on this.". I never received that money. I am aware that his distributors are having the same problem. His web-based mailbox at powweb.com is apparently full, and unattended, because all email sent to him at that email address comes back as "File size too large" and undeliverable.

Shields up, Scotty...

As of today, Val'a Fusco has made no threats against me, but... Val'a has alluded to his Italian background more than once, in phone conversations with me, remarking that he "has a cousin who likes to break people's legs." We joked about it, when discussing some of the nasty (and, as it turns out, legitimate) complaints about his company. He's even made veiled threats publicly, on RC Universe, [here](#). Now honestly, I assume that this is all talk, and if that's all it is, that's ok. Still, to be safe, I've alerted a couple of detective friends of mine, in case anything "unusual" should happen to me. (I worked in partnership with the Hilton Security Network here for several years, and take no chances when it comes to safety.) Regardless, this web article and the records I've mentioned above will continue to exist, and can be unlocked by two different local friends, as well as by family members, out of state.

- Mike James

Today, (August 25, 2003) Val'a Fusco phoned me. I immediately told him (again, because of all the past lies) that I would not be having any verbal conversations with him, and that he must write via email, regular mail, or record a message on my phone machine. Then I hung up, before it could go further. Within a couple of minutes, I received these two emails:

From: Fusco Aircraft Corp <service@fuscoaircraft.com>
Date: Mon Aug 25, 2003 2:52:34 PM America/Anchorage
To: Mike James <drummer@alaska.com>
Subject: Re: Berkut final shipment

Mike,

My email has been down for several days due to someone sending large virus files of an airplane.

I need your home address considering that I do not have it on hand. I read your posting on your site and hope you understand that you violated our agreement.

However we will tend to that later. In the mean time you advised that we owe a certain amount and have funds to send to you once

I have your address.

You will be paid anything that is owed to you before this week is up or sooner. I am not sure how you feel that you have benefited from your statements when in fact you have violated the contract. In our contract it states that you refrain from making comments true or not true. I think that you have never called me but email only. My email is back up so please just email me your address.

Thank you,
Val'a

Below is the response I sent.

From: Mike James <drummer@alaska.com>
Date: Mon Aug 25, 2003 2:40:20 PM America/Anchorage
To: Fusco Aircraft Corp <service@fuscoaircraft.com>
Subject: The Fusco Fiasco continues...

Val'a,

Our worthless contract has been breached by you on many occasions, and is still breached, by your non-payment of our contracted salary. I am no longer bound by it's terms, and am not going to lie, by withholding information from all the people you're cheating, by "not making comments". Now that you've threatened legal action (in your second email) I've decided to let you do just that. We can settle ALL Fusco issues in court, if you like. So, I will keep the crate with the final shipment at it's safe location, and you can keep your final payment (which I don't expect you to make anyway) until this is all settled.

The last payment of any kind you made to me was on August 8th. (\$200 "to get me by", and \$100 for the crate which will be used to ship remaining parts.) You've been out of touch with me since August 14th, so your email being down "for several days" is not an excuse. (and I'll verify that through powweb.com before I take your word for it anyway.) You could have emailed from another location, made a phone call, written a letter, or, more to the point, you could have sent the money you promised on many occasions. You managed to post more lies on RC Universe during this same time. ...Like all the ones below:

I keep all records of our communication, as I've told you before. Here is a small sampling of the recent promises you've made via email and broken: (ALL of them)

- July 27th - I have your cash in hand that is owed to you and I appreciate you working double time.
- August 1st - I have the balance but waiting on your end before I release the final sum.
- August 6th - I will have funds ready for you and over night them on Monday and you will have a pick up at the same time as the drop off.
- August 11th - Your funds will not arrive till wednesday and there will not be a pick up till that date.
- August 14th- (last contact) I have the funds on the way and were sent from someone else and I will call on this.
- August 25th - (today) You will be paid anything that is owed to you before this week is up or sooner.

I have no reason to believe that today's promise is any different from the ones in the past. And what's this about you not having my address? I'm the guy you were in contact with since last November, with many emails, calls, and shipments exchanged between us, and now you don't have my address? ... Sure.

Mike James
Email: drummer@alaska.com
Web site: <http://www.nextcraft.com>

From: Fusco Aircraft Corp <service@fuscoaircraft.com>
Date: Mon Aug 25, 2003 3:02:32 PM America/Anchorage
To: Mike James <drummer@alaska.com>
Subject: Re: Lies

Mike,

Your the one that caused the serious and series of delays not me, you didn't hold up to your end and stopped working on the project. Anyhow you and I will handle this in a court of law and this I promise on my life.

I need your address to complete the last transaction of \$2,300 and that is all your getting and I hope you ship out everything and that we are not missing one thing.

You have either lost your mind or on drugs if you think you will get by with this and the lawyer that contacted you will be the one that we are filing cliams against you within your state.

Mike I am not the one that uses a BOUGUS name nor hides from the public but regardless if you would have picked up the phone when I did try to call you we could have avoided this.

Thank you,
Val'a Fusco

I didn't respond to this one, since it seems worthless to do so. His remark "stopped working on the project" is true. When he quit paying me, I had to do whatever I could to pay the rent, and told him I'd resume work when he paid me. I have email records of all of this garbage.

His remark about me using a "bogus name" (I think he meant "bogus".) is no secret to anyone that knows me, including Val'a Fusco. My legal name is James Michael Ironmonger. When I first went on the road as a young drummer in the early 70's, you can imagine how booking agents reacted to that name. So, since about 1975, most people that know me have referred to me as "Mike James". It's simply easier to remember. This is a legal DBA on my bank account, and Val'a was told about this before we ever signed a contract. I don't see that it's relevant, but that's typical of Val'a Fusco, grasping for straws, in order to shift blame to me.

I have no idea what the last sentence means, but I'm guessing that it means that if he could lie to me verbally, I might have been fooled into believing him. Apparently, he is not willing to put whatever he intended to say into writing.

I received this back from Val'a Fusco's email server after I sent the above email.

From: MAILER-DAEMON@mail01.powweb.com (Mail Delivery System)
Date: Mon Aug 25, 2003 3:01:25 PM America/Anchorage
To: drummer@alaska.com
Subject: Undelivered Mail Returned to Sender

This is the Postfix program at host mail01.powweb.com.

I'm sorry to have to inform you that the message returned below could not be delivered to one or more destinations.

For further assistance, please send mail to <postmaster>

If you do so, please include this problem report. You can delete your own text from the message returned below.

The Postfix program

<fuscoaircraf@mail01.powweb.com>: cannot access mailbox /var/mail/fuscoaircraf for user fuscoaircraf. error writing message: File too large
Reporting-MTA: dns; mail01.powweb.com
Arrival-Date: Mon, 25 Aug 2003 15:40:22 -0700 (PDT)

Final-Recipient: rfc822; fuscoaircraf@mail01.powweb.com
Action: failed
Status: 5.0.0
Diagnostic-Code: X-Postfix; cannot access mailbox /var/mail/fuscoaircraf for user fuscoaircraf. error writing message: File too large

So, I called technical support at powweb.com, and as you might

expect, they tell me that there are no problems with their email server, and the last problems (short ones) occurred a couple of weeks ago. Here's an email from them:

Hello Mike,

The status of the mail server mail01.powweb.com has been functional for at least the past two weeks. Please let us know if we can assist you in any other way.

Galax W.

Powweb Inc.

Powweb Technical Support

support@powweb.com

As expected.... Here's another email I sent earlier today.
(08-25-03)

From: Mike James <drummer@alaska.com>
Date: Mon Aug 25, 2003 7:10:57 PM America/Anchorage
To: Val'a Fusco <service@fuscoaircraft.com>
Subject: Berkut issues

Val'a,

Whatever.

I want this ordeal over with as quickly as possible, but now you've threatened me with legal action, when you are the one who has breached our contract by non-payment. I won't stand for you trying to claim otherwise, because it's simply a lie. So...

I will only now make the exchange if you have a legal document transferred to me, signed by you, stating that once the exchange is made, you will not EVER take any legal action against me over any Fusco-related issue. If you do that, we can make the exchange immediately, as long as I have 24 hours or more notice, via email, so I can go retrieve the crate from storage.

Mike James
Email: drummer@alaska.com
Web site: <http://www.nextcraft.com>

This email was also returned from the server...

From: MAILER-DAEMON@mail01.powweb.com (Mail Delivery System)
Date: Mon Aug 25, 2003 7:21:07 PM America/Anchorage
To: drummer@alaska.com
Subject: Undelivered Mail Returned to Sender

This is the Postfix program at host mail01.powweb.com.

I'm sorry to have to inform you that the message returned below could not be delivered to one or more destinations.

For further assistance, please send mail to <postmaster>

If you do so, please include this problem report. You can delete your own text from the message returned below.

The Postfix program

<fuscoaircraf@mail01.powweb.com>: cannot access mailbox
/var/mail/fuscoaircraf
for user fuscoaircraf. error writing message: File too large
Reporting-MTA: dns; mail01.powweb.com
Arrival-Date: Mon, 25 Aug 2003 20:10:58 -0700 (PDT)

Final-Recipient: rfc822; fuscoaircraf@mail01.powweb.com
Action: failed
Status: 5.0.0
Diagnostic-Code: X-Postfix; cannot access mailbox
/var/mail/fuscoaircraf for
user fuscoaircraf. error writing message: File too large

**Although I expect this one to be bounced back too, I sent this response to Val'a Fusco's next email:
Val'a Fusco's text is in black, and mine is in maroon.**

From: Mike James <drummer@alaska.com>
Date: Mon Aug 25, 2003 8:12:15 PM America/Anchorage
To: Fusco Aircraft Corp <service@fuscoaircraft.com>
Subject: Re: SHIPMENT ADDRESS!

Val'a,

Short answer... Nothing has changed. I've inserted my responses into your email below:

On Monday, August 25, 2003, at 08:36 PM, Fusco Aircraft Corp wrote:

Mike,

I am writing to explain to you that my system crashed and I have asked that you email me your address, your final payment that you explained that we owe to you will be sent by a third party for both of our protection from a law firm, it will be for the amount of \$2,300 and it will be from a law firm in your city.

Earlier today, you said your "email was down", which it was not. I checked with powweb.com myself, by phone. Now it's that "my system crashed". I emailed you earlier today, and the mail was again refused, because your mailbox is full. "File size too large". Bla bla bla. Yet somehow, you're able to email me from the same email address, and you're able to post on RC Universe. These are lame excuses. Anybody on the planet who has internet access, as you do, can create a temporary mailbox (i.e. at HotMail) and take care of important business problems, such as yours.

Payment will have to be a non-reversible, cashier's check, money order, or actual cash. I certainly will no longer accept checks from you, since I've already had one bounce. I have emailed you my address, and as expected, email to you gets bounced back to me, stating that your email box is full. ... "File size too large". Are you now trying to delay paying me by claiming that it's all the fault of your email?

Mike you broke our contract and not only did you break the contract you also are blackmailing me in your letter on your site to the public.

I've done the work. You haven't paid me, as you've promised on many occasions. That is not blackmail, by any stretch. You're just finding the truth very uncomfortable. I know, from talking to a variety of your customers and distributors that this behavior on your part is typical, and not just related to me.

Why not just simply admit to me, and to everyone, what the actual status of not only the Berkut, but your whole company is? Many people, myself included, have said that if you would just "come clean", chances are fairly high that the customers might be more patient. Same for me. If you had said that you couldn't pay me, and been honest about it, you might already have the last crate. But, when you repeatedly say the money is "coming soon" or "on the way" or whatever, you just make yourself out to be a liar. This is all your own doing, and eventually, you will have to face the fact that your dishonesty is what is causing you the most damage.

I do not want to cause you any harm, we just want what is owed to us so we can get parts to people that have the berkuts.

Good. All I want is what is owed to me.

In example the molds are having to be re-done, manual has to be re-written.

What does that sentence mean? You don't even have the manual, so how would you know? The only copy I ever posted for you was clearly marked "Not For Publication", and has since been finished.

Now I have all your information but not on me and I asked if you would please send me your contact information, my email is full because every time I check it I get flooded with a hundred emails

of a virus with an image in it of a plane.

Regarding your email: See above.

My address remains the same:

Mike James

(I removed the rest of my address, for posting here, but it was sent to Val'a Fusco - MJ)

You too could have easily picked up the phone and left a message but instead you posted comments about us to knock us out of business it seems.

I told you quite a while ago, since you verbally threatened me, that I would no longer be having any verbal conversations with you. I told you that again today. Whatever communication goes on between us must be in writing, via email, or you can record a message on my phone machine.

I don't know if you realize that you have been paid, not to mention that you gave up long ago when we were struggling over the delays.

The first part of your sentence makes no sense. I ceased work when you ceased paying me, and have all the communication between us to prove it.

If you remember making a comment that if I had to refund a customer his money on the one you made comments to that you would deduct it from what we had to pay. Now I never did that did I and you never mentioned that once it turned into a return.

Yes, back when I believed in the future of this project, I actually volunteered to pay for one of the refunds myself, to stop that person's negative comments on RCU. You chose not to do that. So, your point is... ?

I am working along with others to get berkuts out the door and by sending me your address we can get this over with asap! Keep in mind that the only thing I owe you is \$2,300 that you are advising to release the crate plugs and everything else that was to be shipped weeks ago.

No. Now you also owe me a legal document, signed by you, that states that you will NEVER take any legal action against me whatsoever, regarding any Fusco-related matters. If you do that, we can make the exchange as quickly as you like, as long as I have 24 hours notice, so I can retrieve the crate from storage. I will not accept any threat of legal action from you when you have clearly been the one to breach our contract. It's absurd, and I won't stand for it.

I need to know if you want the check made out to your personal name or your Mike James name and if it is your personal name can you please give it to me.

I have the email records (...again) to prove that you're quite aware of two things:

1. You know my actual name, and...
2. You know as well as I do that "Mike James" is a legal DBA on my bank account, and that you can write a check in that name, or to James M. Ironmonger. You yourself have sent payments in both names. It makes no difference.

If you don't email me then it will only delay us getting funds to you that you state we owe. I ask that you can take a chance and email us your physical address so we can get funds to you and get this over with. You have more to gain than lose. Email me your address and we will be done with this and move on. Keep in mind that I have merged with another r/c company and this is a threat to them as well by holding us up.

Kind of a joke, to insist that I email you, when all email to you gets bounced back...

I'm not threatening anyone. You are. I have a contract that states that I will be paid a bi-weekly salary, which you have not done. Since you lie about when you'll pay me, and then avoid contact, I have simply told people the truth.

Our lawyer is aware of this and suggest that you get what you are stating you owe and remove your comments due to our non disclosure. If not you will force us all into a limbo of court battles that neither one of us want. You want what you say is owed \$2,300 and we want what is ours. Make it simple and email us your address.

You keep using the words "what you state is owed". Are you now trying to dispute what you owe me?

There's no reason for me to "remove my comments", since absolutely nothing has changed. However, if you pay me and provide the statement mentioned above, I will happily report that I've been paid, and that I am finished with the project.

I would trust that if you get a check from a lawyer in your city that you will honor it and not delay the shipment or at least I hope you would not.

This is probably the 20th time I have told you, but I'll say it again. Pay me, and the crate is yours. (with the above-mentioned non-litigation agreement)

Thank you,
Val'a Fusco

Mike James
Email: drummer@alaska.com
Web site: <http://www.nextcraft.com>

And, as expected, the result:

From: MAILER-DAEMON@mail01.powweb.com (Mail Delivery System)
Date: Mon Aug 25, 2003 8:20:52 PM America/Anchorage
To: drummer@alaska.com
Subject: Undelivered Mail Returned to Sender

This is the Postfix program at host mail01.powweb.com.

I'm sorry to have to inform you that the message returned below could not be delivered to one or more destinations.

For further assistance, please send mail to <postmaster>

If you do so, please include this problem report. You can delete your own text from the message returned below.

The Postfix program

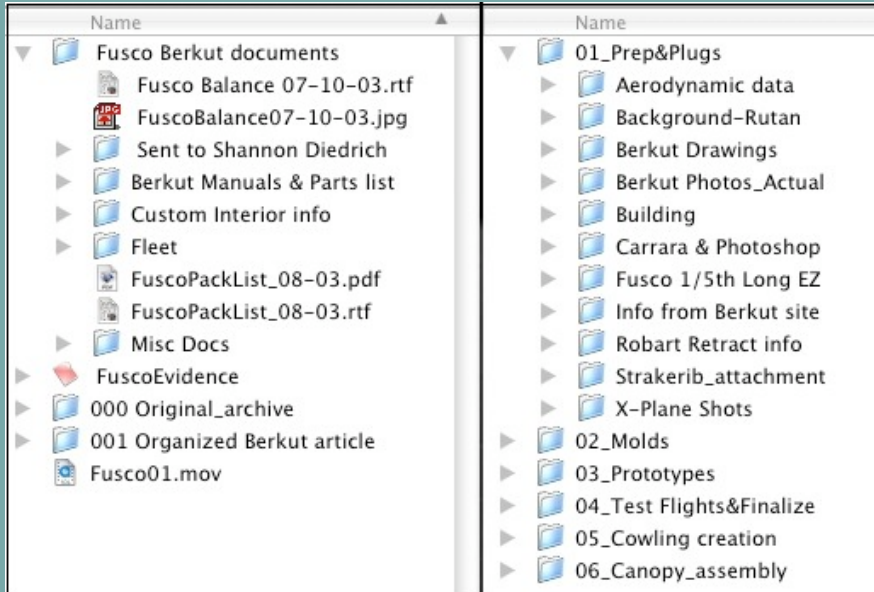
<fuscoaircraf@mail01.powweb.com>: cannot access mailbox /var/mail/fuscoaircraf for user fuscoaircraf. error writing message: File too large
Reporting-MTA: dns; mail01.powweb.com
Arrival-Date: Mon, 25 Aug 2003 21:12:16 -0700 (PDT)

Final-Recipient: rfc822; fuscoaircraf@mail01.powweb.com
Action: failed
Status: 5.0.0
Diagnostic-Code: X-Postfix; cannot access mailbox /var/mail/fuscoaircraf for user fuscoaircraf. error writing message: File too large

As of 08-26-03 I've also downloaded and remotely backed up the entire contents of the Fusco web site, to be used as more evidence, should we end up in court.

I had my first meeting with an attorney today, and will update this page as developments occur. For now, I have plenty of homework to do, including printing out the 1180 emails exchanged between Val'a Fusco, some subcontractors, and myself, and the creation of a CD containing the approximately 900 photos I took during the process. There are, as of 08-26-03, another 60 or so emails from Fusco customers and distributors, but I will reserve those for now. (And again, to reassure those involved, I will not disclose or use any of those person's names, without their express permission.) Obviously, many of the emails were more than one page, so we're talking about approximately 2000 to 3000 pages I have to print. ...

Lots of ink and time, that I'd prefer to be spending on something else. Wednesday and Friday, I meet with the attorney again, and will keep you informed as much as is possible.



Quoting Arnold Schwarzenegger in Terminator, "I have detaled files".

More of the same, from Val'a Fusco this morning (08-26-03)

From: Fusco Aircraft Corp <service@fuscoaircraft.com>
Date: Tue Aug 26, 2003 10:22:39 AM America/Anchorage
To: Mike James <drummer@alaska.com>
Subject: Re: SHIPMENT ADDRESS!

Mike,

I have your address and this will be forwarded to the law firm that is handling this incident and it will be a check from their law firm. You may want to check with the law in your state and any state for that matter about holding us at bay that you will not release our items once you are paid if we don't sign a contract document that we will not peruse legal civil action against you. It's called blackmail that happens to be a criminal offense, again I have on record for the second time!

I have this lawyer doing the third party payment to assure that there are no mistakes along the way. I believe that you will be contacted via phone by the lawyer and it is possible that you can pick the check up at their office.

I will know more once I talk to him this afternoon due to the time difference he is not in at this time.

I will not sign a document under distress and this is also advised by the law firm in the past, considering that they felt this would be a motive on your end, that is not legal and would and is considered by law to be blackmail.

Mike, I don't want to cause you any legal problems but you having made your statements on the World Wide Web were a low blow. You need to read the contract that I have and you have in hand.

It states that you are to be paid the balance and if you want to get technical you causing the delays and not getting items to me on time was not going by the contract you signed either.

Your mistakes caused me to lose financially and my reputation that now is nothing. I have lost everything and I'm not happy!!!

I hope that you do not think that this is a bluff, but if you remain to keep your post up and you having the check from the lawyer for the balance you advised that is owed, it will do you more harm than good.

If you think that this is just a bluff, I would contact a good lawyer in your town to get some good advised because via my law firm you have committed a criminal and civil act by your post that blackmails me live to the public. Screen shots have been taken and you are not thinking clearly at all.

If you don't send the shipment to the location of our request once you have these funds we will be filing a criminal affidavit in your location against you for holding our property and civil recourses as well.

I don't want to do either, we just want the goods and you to move on but you may want to consider removing your post before you do more damage toward us, meaning me and the new company I have merged with that is more than willing to peruse this matter if we need be.

Last: my email keeps bouncing back because I keep getting flooded with a virus email that plugs up my email box. My email can work once I delete hundreds of emails.

No need in relying back to me we have the ball rolling to settle this matter with you and to make you happy. I would on your end considering doing the same for us and remove you're posting on your site.

You should really get some legal council to advise you that you have broken our contract by posting information true or not. If you had a problem with me you should have taken it up in court of law not on the net.

Damaging us more and more each day that your post is made public on your site or any site live to the world. Get a lawyer Mike and have them explain to you this outcome.

You remove your posting on your site once you are paid and we will move on and let by gones be by gones, leave it up and you will appear in a court of law in your city. Don't do this to you and I don't want to do this to you either.

If you are contacted by the law firm via the phone I would suggest to you to help you and listen to what they have to tell you. It's for your own good I don't think you want to be appearing in court.

Thank you,
Val'a Fusco

My response, posted on RCU (08-26-03)

Do we all feel better?

There you have it folks... (if you can read it)

I don't think Val'a has paid attention to the fact that he was the first one to breach our contract. He seems to think that it's ok to leave me (and all of you) hanging, but he still must have what he wants, "or else".

Val'a "will let bygones be bygones", but won't sign a document saying so.

.... Sounds like an ambush to me.

He still hasn't paid me, but "I'm blackmailing him".

.... Yeah, that sounds fair.

According to his web site, "[Fusco Aeronautics Corporation offers a full line of the highest quality aircraft performance products and accessories. Fusco Aeronautics Corporation prides itself on its excellence in fiberglass manufacturing and repair for both unmanned and full scale aircraft applications. For more information about custom fiberglass work or to place an order for fiberglass components for our fleet of aircraft, contact a local distributor nearest you!](#)"

... but, my having the the cowling plug (that he still hasn't paid for) is "holding his company and another manufacturer at bay."
Hmmm.

I'd love to see some of the fantastic CAD work done by his

super-duper high tech "CAD Applications Development" division....
It sounds really cool.

He agrees (for different reasons than mine) that the contract is breached, yet he seems to want to still hold me to it.
..... Yeah.

Watch out everybody! Val'a has achieved the remarkable capability of "taking screen shots". Very scary, huh?

One thing though... He does give good advice. He advised me to get a lawyer, and that's what I've done.

Thanks, Val'a.

As of 09-01-03 there was no further email, no word on when I would be paid, and no calls from an attorney.
Val'a Fusco also announced that there was going to be a major press release on 09-01-03, which would "set everyone's mind to rest". Of course, this did not occur. Also, an interesting coincidence... I use a Mac, along with some great virus protection software, and never have had a problem with computer viruses transmitted via email. There was an obvious "spike" though, beginning on 08-27-03, when I started to receive about 30 emails per day with (PC-related) virus attempts. None have affected me at all, but I thought that the timing of the attacks was a little too coincidental. Can you guess where the attacks might have come from?

As far as I'm concerned, I've been screwed, and it's over. I will now proceed on my own, and do my best to put the "Fusco Fiasco" behind me. Part of my ongoing efforts will be to try and come up with a way to get Berkut kits to people who have ordered them, and/or new customers who might want one. This will require making more molds, etc., and I can't afford it right now. But, there is hope. More than a few people have very kindly talked to me about helping see to it that this happens. When I can be more specific, I will. In the meantime, my very sincerest thanks to all of you who have given your support.

- Mike James