

Venture RV Stratus

As K-Z RV's Venture RV division continues to grow, the Shipshewana, Ind.-based builder is fast becoming a full-line manufacturer. The company's colorful new Stratus, for example, is intended to fit between other lines.

"It fits a niche between our Sonic weights – which top out at about 4,500 pounds – and our SportTrek, which begins at around 5,500 pounds," said General Manager Dave Boggs. "The new Stratus comes in at between 4,500 and 6,200 pounds." Available in four shades – victory red, indigo blue, polar white and Aztec grey – the lineup includes six floorplans, from 28 feet, 7 inches to 32 feet, 1 inch and carry GVWR's of 7,000 to 8,300 pounds. MSRPs, noted Boggs, start at about \$25,000 – again, picking up from where the Sonic leaves off.

Beyond the colorful exterior, however, are a host of family-friendly features from the subtle (bottle opener with doggie tie-down) to flip-up Solid Steps, a walk-in pantry (certain floorplans) and a U-shaped dinette – which, depending upon floorplan, shares the single streetside slideout with a sofa, 8-cubic-foot refrigerator or the pantry. The contemporary alpine white/mountain walnut wood interior also offers double sinks and entertainment center with built-in fireplace. The SR261VRL, shown, includes a rear sofa and walk-through mid-bath. The forward bedroom offers queen-sized sleeping and plenty of storage, with pass-through storage beneath it.

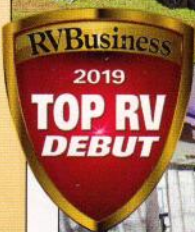
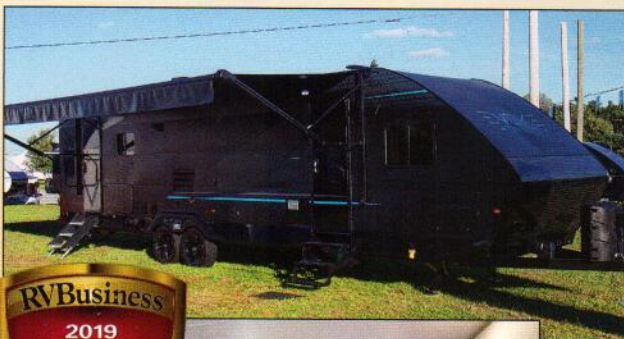
Regency RV Ultra Brougham

While Fort Worth, Texas-based Regency RV has a long history – it dates back to 1985 – it was primarily a builder of custom vans and trucks. After the company was sold in 2005, it later went dormant – so when Alan Osicka got back into the business five years later, he resurrected the Regency name. It wasn't long, though, before he sold off the custom division and began concentrating on RVs.

Even so, as he told *RVB*, "since we're from the automotive industry, we take a different look at things, like the design of the outside of our Mercedes-Benz Sprinter-based coaches." Pointing to the company's upscale Ultra Brougham Class B+ taillights, he added "I probably spend a lot more money using those than I do some little round units."

Built on the 11,030-pound Sprinter chassis, the \$133,000 base MSRP Ultra Brougham is a couples coach, with a Murphy bed tucked into the streetside wall (supported by a pair of unique fold-down captain's chairs) and perhaps the most expansive rear bath seen in a Class B.

According to Osicka, another of Regency's "calling cards" is its fit and finish. "When we build our coach, from the dash all the way back, everything matches. We feel a customer of a Mercedes-Benz should get a full coach, not just from the B-pillar, back. And there are no cracks, no trim pieces to cover up a mistake – everything is made to fit." It's also made at Regency. "Being in Fort Worth, there are no local vendors, so we build everything."



Travel Lite Evoke 2020L

When Travel Lite RV began focusing its efforts on a unique aerodynamic profile to travel trailers a few years back with the debut of the Falcon, President Dustin Johns knew he was onto something – and subsequent lines have borne it out. The Aura took the sleek look a step further – and at Open House, Johns introduced the most aerodynamic profile yet with the Evoke.

"Definitely in the travel trailer market, we're the most aerodynamic shape," Johns told *RVB* at a sneak peek of the new Evoke 2020L the evening before Open House kicked off. "We're the only full-size travel trailer that has a wheelbase wider than the unit itself so that it tows more stable. And also we're using a super-durable, pontoon-style, woven PVC flooring that is basically indestructible.

We've also developed a very European private jet-style interior that the industry has never seen before, all at a price point that hits the market under \$30,000 MSRP."

Initially available in black matte finish – matte grey and matte white are coming – the Evoke features a 102-inch wheel width, placing each wheel outside the 96-inch-wide unit. An upgraded suspension also is expected to enhance road manners.

The interior of the 36-foot-long, 6,920-pound (UVW) 2020L – accessed through a tempered glass entry door – includes a floating fireplace, LED light sconces, remote-controlled lighting throughout and curved aircraft-style overhead cabinets. The rear lounge floorplan also features a 40-inch Furrion TV (a second TV is in the forward bedroom), outside kitchen and contemporary galley with whitewashed cabinets.