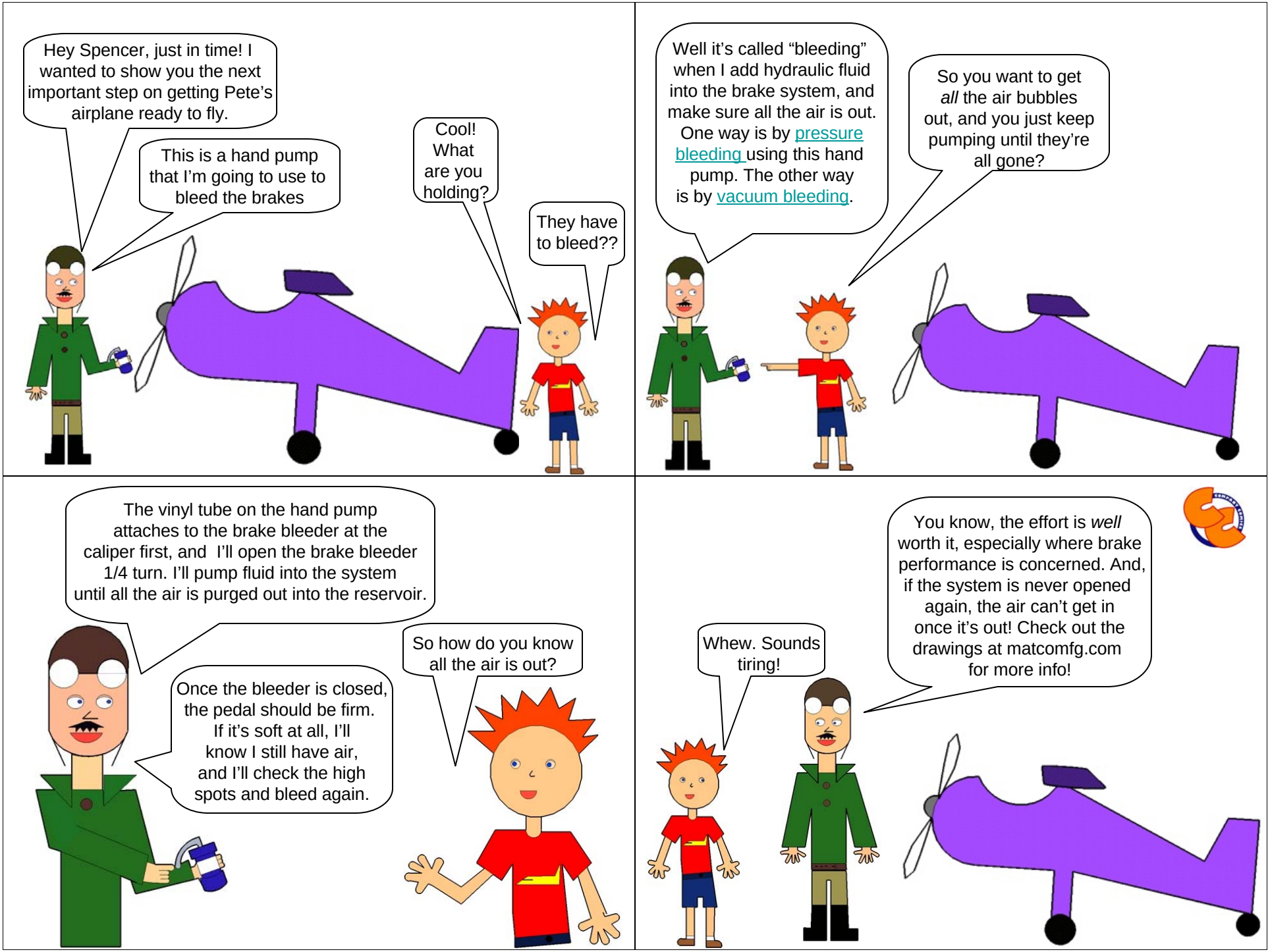
Hey Spencer, just in time! I wanted to show you the next important step on getting Pete's airplane ready to fly.
This is a hand pump that I'm going to use to bleed the brakes
Cool! What are you holding?
They have to bleed??
Well it's called "bleeding" when I add hydraulic fluid into the brake system, and make sure all the air is out. One way is by pressure bleeding using this hand pump. The other way is by vacuum bleeding.
So you want to get *all* the air bubbles out, and you just keep pumping until they're all gone?
The vinyl tube on the hand pump attaches to the brake bleeder at the caliper first, and I'll open the brake bleeder 1/4 turn. I'll pump fluid into the system until all the air is purged out into the reservoir.
Once the bleeder is closed, the pedal should be firm. If it's soft at all, I'll know I still have air, and I'll check the high spots and bleed again.
So how do you know all the air is out?
Whew. Sounds tiring!
You know, the effort is *well* worth it, especially where brake performance is concerned. And, if the system is never opened again, the air can't get in once it's out! Check out the drawings at matcomfg.com for more info!