



ORGANISATION SCIENTIFIQUE  
ET TECHNIQUE INTERNATIONALE DU VOL 'A VOILE  
- O.S.T.I.V. -  
INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL  
ORGANISATION FOR GLIDING  
(Affiliated Member of the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale,  
F.A.I.)

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REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC  
AND TECHNICAL ORGANISATION FOR SOARING FLIGHT (OSTIV)  
for the period October 2008 to October 2009.  
Loek M.M. Boermans, President of OSTIV.

### In Memoriam

On August 27, 2008 our highly respected member of the Sailplane Development Panel, **Prof. Dr.-Ing. Josef Mertens**, died in a sailplane accident in the French Alps. Unbelievable and bitter, considering that Josef contributed for many years to the safety of gliding by his work in the SDP, for instance recently as member of the SDP Crashworthiness Subcommittee.

On March 15, 2009 the Chairman of this SDP Crashworthiness Subcommittee since 1996 **Petr Kousal** suddenly passed away. Petr has been the motor of several working groups in the SDP, and his outstanding engagement, supporting essentially the launching process for the Notice of Proposed Amendment (NPA) 2007-12 "Crashworthiness", made it possible to accomplish this demanding task within the tight time limits set by the European Aviation Safety Agency, EASA. For this great effort he was awarded with the OSTIV Prize at the Opening Ceremony of the XXIX OSTIV Congress 2008 in Lüsse, Germany.

OSTIV and the gliding community worldwide are very much indebted to these friends of gliding and specialists on safety!

### Panel meetings

The **Sailplane Development Panel (SDP)**, chaired by Dipl.-Ing Helmut Fendt, had its annual meeting 2008 during the days before the OSTIV Congress, from 4 and 5 August 2008 in Lüsse, Germany, as reported last year.

The **next meeting** will be on 15 and 16 October 2009 at the Wasserkuppe, Germany.

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The **Training and Safety panel (TSP)**, chaired by Dipl. –Ing. Ian Odaker, had its Flying Training Seminar from 17 to 20 August 2009, followed by its biannual meeting on 21 and 22 August 2009, both at Terlet, the Gliding Centre of the Netherlands.

At the Flying Training Seminar the panel members discussed and tried (Retrieval) Winch Launching procedures, Scenario Based Training Exercises, and the use of Touring Motor gliders, Self Launching Gliders and Flight Simulators for ab initio-, advanced- and scenario based training. Several two-place gliders, motor-gliders and a flight simulator were operated. At the meeting the topics were Accident Review per country (which led to some general recommendations to IGC), Standard Operating Procedures (which is an ongoing process), EASA legislation (in cooperation with the European Gliding Union whose President Patrick Pauwels and Safety Officer Henrik Svensson attended the meeting), discussions on the Flying Training Seminar, and on the introduction of a Safety Management Program (see below).

It is intended to have the **next joint meeting** of the Sailplane Development Panel and Training and Safety Panel in 2010. Location has to be decided yet.

The **Meteorological Panel (MP)**, chaired by Dr. Hermann Trimmel, decided to have no formal meeting in 2008 since many members participated in the OSTIV Congress where one whole day was devoted to meteorology, as reported last year. Since then, the review process of the new edition of the “Handbook of Meteorological Forecasting for Soaring Flight” has been finished and in August 2009 the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) published the result as Technical Note No 203 titled “Weather Forecasting for Soaring Flight”. This publication in colour is very valuable and reflects the progress that has been achieved in numerical weather prediction and the use of new interfaces between the predicted weather and the pilot to support pre-flight decision-making.

The publication can be ordered at WMO and at OSTIV.

**Next meeting** of the Meteorological Panel is scheduled for 25 – 27 September 2009 in Pfaffstaetten, near Vienna in Austria.

### **Cooperation with the International Gliding Commission**

In order to make the work of OSTIV better known to the members of the International Gliding Commission, the President of IGC Bob Henderson invited the Chairman of the Sailplane Development Panel, Helmut Fendt, to present the work of the SDP to the full plenum of the IGC at their annual meeting 2008 in Rome. Helmut’s presentation, focused on the work on Airworthiness Requirements of Sailplanes and Powered Sailplanes, on Crashworthiness of Cockpits, and on cooperation with EASA, was highly appreciated by the plenum.

This year, the IGC President invited the Chairman of the Training and Safety Panel, Ian Oldaker, to present the work of the TSP at the 2009 IGC meeting in Lausanne. In addition to this presentation, Ian took up Bob Henderson’s worries about the safety awareness of (competition) pilots, and presented the report “Pilot Safety in Gliding, Recommendations for Immediate and Long-term Safety Initiatives”. Ian’s presentation was very welcomed by the plenum.

At the meeting of the Training and Safety Panel this year the members discussed the follow-up of the previous report, titled “Implementing a Safety Management Program for Gliding Organisations”. This report will be presented at the next IGC meeting in March 2010.