



IGC 2023 Plenary Meeting



ANDS Committee

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2024 Report to the Plenary

Dear Delegates,

In 2023, the Air Traffic, Navigation and Display Systems Committee was fairly active.

Following last year's meeting in Copenhagen in which calibration intervals for Flight Recorders were discussed, ANDS cooperated with GFAC and the Sporting Code and Annex A Committees to modernize the calibration requirements for Flight Recorders.

Last year, evidence was presented that modern direct-to-digital pressure transducers are extremely linear over long periods of time, and that pressure offsets can be compensated by taking into consideration the known elevation of the takeoff. This allowed the Sporting Code Committee to relax the calibration requirements for FAI Badges, and allowed the Annex A Committee to make optional the provision of calibration certificates to competition Organisers.

Further work is needed in the main section of SC3 and Annex B to answer questions about the feasibility of using single point checks to verify that the pressure measurement systems are still functioning properly after long periods without formal calibrations.

ANDS did not participate in the debate over the Earth Model to be used in flight evaluations in competitions. Most members of ANDS were in favor of transitioning from spherical to ellipsoidal trigonometry, now that the latter has become computationally feasible.

Our founding member and Chairman of Honour, Bernald Smith, sends his greetings to all Delegates, along with an announcement of his retirement from all gliding activities. Our highest award, which he received in 1993, is not high enough to recognize his innumerable contributions to FAI.

With Bernald's retirement, and after 30 years of monitoring and reporting on science, applied science, aeronautics, instrumentation, software engineering, international standards, regulations, and functional specifications, it is time for ANDS (formerly GNSS Committee) and GFAC to review their primary missions. ANDS supports the creation of an IGC Working Group to investigate the establishment of a new Committee to guide IGC through the transition to the new information technologies.

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