INTERNATIONAL GLIDING COMMISSION (IGC) - PROPOSAL FORM

Sending of the proposals by email is no longer necessary, but still possible.

Submit the proposal via the automatic submission process
using the following web address copied into your web browser:

https://www.fai.org/igc-documents/proposals

Date: 29/12/2021

Proposal submitted by: Denmark & France

This proposal is a: *mark the boxes with as appropriate*

Year-1 Year-2 X Other

Type the text changes in the space below *(show deletions as ~~strike-through~~ and additions as* ***bold underlined****):*

It is proposed to remove the need for a periodical calibration of flight recorders, as they do not drift over time. Check that the original calibration is still valid, and that the pressure sensor isn't broken, could be done by a simple check, comparing the pressure altitude with the GPS altitude in the flight log file.

Type the reasons in the space below:

A less than 5-year old calibration certificate is now required even for simple badge. It is very difficult to get such a proper document. It leads to many side effects: Fewer badges or records submitted, calibration certificate with a variable or untrusted precision, etc. Moreover, the data in the calibration certificates are rarely used even in a WGC. Last but not least, manufacturers having a long-term experience report that the pressure sensors don't drift. If they work, they work fine. No periodical calibration of altitude sensor is required neither for transponder nor for FLARM.

It must be assumed that the pressure altitude recorded by the FR is according to the pressure altitude recorded when it was calibrated.
OO and competition director can check that the altitude sensor of the FR is fine by comparing the pressure altitude records by the GPS altitude records. These can be done in a spread sheet with a macro. An example of this will be shown at the plenary meeting. It shall be mentioned that the GPS position is much more accurate today, than it was when FR were first developed. At that time the civil GPS position were deliberately made inaccurate. The deliberately innaccuracy was removed years back, and today the GPS position is accurate within 10 m. By comparison, the uncertainty in pressure altitude for a typical Flight Recorder is about 6m at an altitude of 6000m.

Provide supporting data or reference to external documents for the proposed technical amendments in the space below:

Statement from FR manufactory, and example og calibration will be shown at the plenary meeting.

The proposal should be applicable from: October 2022

Sporting Code Volume: Section 3 – Gliding

Version/Edition: 1 October 2021

Heading of section:

Number & heading of the paragraph:

Page number(s) if appropriate:

==========

2.4.6 Barometric calibration period The barometric recording function of a FR, or a PR (if incorporated), shall be calibrated within 5 years prior to the flight or within 2 months after the flight.

replaced by

2.4.6 Barometric calibration period The barometric recording function of a FR, or a PR (if incorporated), does not need periodical calibration. Latest calibration shall be used.

==========

3.3.5 Barometric calibration period For distance and speed claims, the barometric function of the FR used for the claim shall be calibrated within 5 years prior to the flight or within 2 months after the flight. Both calibrations are required for altitude and gain of height records, with the less favourable of the two used to make the calculations. The pressure altitude is to be corrected using the calibration chart data (see 4.3.4c).

replaced by

3.3.5 Barometric calibration period For distance and speed claims, the barometric function of the FR used for the claim does not need to be periodically calibrated. Latest calibration shall be used.

==========

The proposal should be applicable from: October 2021

Sporting Code Volume: Annex B to Section 3 – Gliding

Version/Edition: 1 October 2020

Heading of section:

Number & heading of the paragraph:

Page number(s) if appropriate:

==========

2.2.2 IGC High Altitude Flight Recorders (HAFRs)
Remove reference to SC3 requirements for pressure altitude calibrations.

Overall Votes Cast: For: Against: Abstain:

ADOPTED: Yes: No: