INTERNATIONAL GLIDING COMMISSION
Meeting on 7 and 8 March, 2014
Varese, Italy

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ORGANISATION FOR SOARING FLIGHT (OSTIV)
for the period March 1, 2013 to 28 to February 28, 2014.
Loek M.M. Boermans, President of OSTIV.

Work in progress

The main event of the coming period is the XXXII OSTIV Congress, to be held from 30 July to 6 August 2014 at Leszno, Poland, at the site of the 33rd World Gliding Championships 2014 in the 15m, 18m and Open Class.
OSTIV Local Representative is Prof. Dr. Waldemar Ratajczak.

The time schedule is:
28.7, 29/7: Sailplane Development Panel meeting
30/7: Opening Ceremony, presentation of Awards.
31/7, 1/8 and 2/8: Technical Section
3/8: Excursion
4/8, 5/8: Scientific Section
6/8: Closing Dinner.

The papers presented will be reviewed and published in OSTIV’s International Journal of Technical Soaring.

Following the success of the OSTIV Speaker Track at the previous 3 Conventions of the Soaring Society of America in Little Rock, Philadelphia and Reno, OSTIV’s Honorary Member and Local Representative Bernald Smith is organizing another speakers track at the coming SSA Convention in Reno, USA, to be held from 27 February to 1 March 2014.
Panel meetings

The Sailplane Development Panel (SDP), chaired by Helmut Fendt, had its annual meeting at the premises of Airbus, Toulouse, France on 9 and 10 October 2013. Items discussed were:
- Update on the implementation of “6% for Safety“. After discussing the practical problem of selecting a winner for the OSTIV Safety Award at the two previous World Gliding Championships, the Panel concluded that the Award should only be given when there is a pilot who has clearly made a most outstanding contribution to safety within the context of the competition.
- the cooperation between EASA and OSTIV is fruitful.
- to improve safety of winch launching, the panel discussed a preliminary table of maximum acceleration and cable force for the winch driver, the position of the tow hook release handle, and an airbrake locking device (Pigott hook).
- other subjects: Flarm antenna installation, electric and jet propulsion system, energy absorbing seat cushions, spine shell back protection, simulation models for pilot training, and ageing pilots.

The next meeting of the SDP is planned on the days before the XXXII OSTIV Congress, on 28 and 29 July 2014 in Leszno, Poland.

The Training and Safety Panel (TSP), chaired by Ian Oldaker, had its bi-annually meeting on 25 and 26 October in Lasham, UK. Items discussed were:
- accident review by country - trends and mitigations, accident database, Safety Expert Group of FAI, Instructor Standards, Stall Warning System, EASA requirement for clubs to be certified as an Advanced Training Organisation, Disable Flying, progress on Standard Operating Procedures,
- and the subjects discussed by the Sailplane Development panel as well: update on implementation of “6% for Safety“, ageing pilots, simulation models for pilot training, energy absorbing cushions, Flarm antenna installation.

The next meeting of the TSP, if possible with a Flight Training Seminar, is to decide on yet.

The Meteorological Panel, chaired by Prof. Dr. Zafer Aslan, had its annual meeting on 20 and 21 September 2013 at the WMO Regional Training Center, Alanya, Turkey. The event was supported by 3 universities, the Turkish Aeronautical Association and Turkish State Meteorological Service. Fifteen papers were presented on subjects as atmospheric convection, solar radiation, thunderstorms, mathematical modeling and computer simulation, soaring weather forecasting, radar and satellite products, tourism activities related with aero-sports.

OSTIV congratulates Prof. Dr. Zafer Aslan with the FAI Paul Tissandier Diploma for her enormous work and many contributions to the science of meteorology. She gave lectures about meteorology at different universities, managed PhD thesis, MS thesis, domestic and international projects, wrote many academic, technical and scientific articles about gliding and aeronautical meteorology for OSTIV and the American Flight Association Journal, and made translations of international scientific publications and books about aeronautical meteorology.