CIVL 2015 PLENARY – ANNEX 25
SOFTWARE WG REPORT

1. Summary of any subcommittee activity during the year since February 2014

Jörg Ewald

- Submitted outlines of six work packages for FS and WPRS to the Bureau in March:
    1. Regional pilot ranking system in WPRS
    2. 2014 task scoring changes in FS
    3. FTV in FS
    4. Distance measurement
    5. Altitude measurement
    6. Automated testing environment
- Received informal go-ahead for those six work packages
- Implemented work packages 1, 2, 3 completely and within the given time frame
- Work package 6 was started with the help of another Swiss pilot / software developer, but is far from complete
- No work was done for work packages 4 and 5, due to time constraints and doubts about the correctness of those work packages (see below).
- Supported competition organizers in their use of FS
- Supported juries and stewards of FAI Category 1 when questions regarding the correct use of FS surfaced
- Supported the CIVL competition coordinator with investigations, manual database adjustments and bug fixes in WPRS

Andreas Rieck:

- System administration for CIVL server (which runs the IGC validator, and WPRS)
- System administration for WXC
- Support and bug fixing for WXC and IGC validator

2. Issues arising from this activity, or from competitions (Steward & Jury reports)

1. I still believe that work package 4 should be implemented eventually as outlined in my proposal, which is based on what the 2014 CIVL plenary decided. We may be able to secure Daniel Dimov's assistance in this, but this is not certain. At any rate, this is something that needs a lot of testing before being used in a major competition, so for the two World Championships in early 2015, this wouldn't be an option anyway.

2. After working at Flytec for four months, and having access to their research from many years, I have now serious doubts regarding the proposed (by yours truly, I admit) use of Daniel Dimov's True Altitude algorithm in our competitions. Our head researcher and myself, we are both convinced that this system does not sufficiently solve our problems, and introduces additional complexity that is not fully understood nor fully mastered. The result of True Altitude is an altitude value that has very little relevance to the world of flight. We therefore come back to the recommendation already given by the working group around Mark Graham in 2008: Use QNH for all altitude-related decisions in

paragliding and hang gliding competitions, as is customary in all other forms of aviation. There are some easy ways to ensure that all pilots use the same QNH settings, and this can then be verified by FS during flight validation.
We would be happy to discuss this topic with the joint PG/HG committees, preferrably in person or in a video conference.

3. Contributions of developers besides myself were again very limited: Daniel Dimov fixed a bug in the optimized distance calculation in FS, and my friend Michael Moretti started working on work package 6. With the exception of Andreas Rieck, who works independently on WXC and IGC validation, all other „members“ of the software working group must be considered dormant or inactive.

4. As mentioned in the proposal sent to Stéphane Malbos, I doubt that I will be able to continue my support of FS and WPRS at the current level going forward. But I would be willing to volunteer some of Flytec‘s development resources for these projects in return for making the support public.

Regards
Jörg
Head of CIVL Software Working Group