ITALIAN REPORT TO CIMP 2013

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SUMMARY
1) SAFETY OF FLYING
2) MEDICAL EXAMINATION
3) ACADEMIC ACTIVITY

SAFETY OF FLYING

ALL THE DATA ARE OFFICIAL AND ARE OBTAINED FROM THE ANSV THAT IS THE ITALIAN NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE SAFETY OF FLYING

THE REPORT OF THE ACCIDENT IS COMPLETE FOR 2012

AEROPLANES

THE GENERAL AVIATION AEROPLANES REPORTED ACCIDENTS ARE 15 (LAST YEAR WERE 29)

THE MAJORITY OF THE ACCIDENT ARE DUE TO BAD WEATHER IN MOUNTANEUS ENVIRONMENT.
HELCOPTERS

THE HELICOPTERS REPORTED ACCIDENTS ARE 3  (LAST YEAR 6)

THE MORE FREQUENT CAUSE OF ACCIDENTS FOR THE ELICOTTERI ARE
REPRESENTED BY THE ELECTRODUCTS COLLISIONS IN THE MOUNTANEOUS
LANDSCAPE.

GLIDERS

THE GLIDERS REPORTED ACCIDENTS ARE 8  (LAST YEAR 8)

THE MORE FREQUENT GLIDING ACCIDENTS CAUSES ARE THE SAME: CRASH
AGAINST TREES OR MOUNTAINS, FLIGHT COLLISION AND MISMANAGMENT DURING
THE TUG PHASE.

BALLONING

THIS YEAR NO ACCIDENTS ARE REPORTED IN BALLOONING AS IN THE PREVIOUS
YEAR.
In 2012 in Italy in the General Aviation were lost 2 people (last year 15) mostly in gliding activity and in private flying. (The fatalities in the last 5 years were: 19 in 2007, 22 in 2008, 14 in 2007, 13 in 2010 and 9 in 2011)

Engined Ultralight

In the Ultralight activity only the fatal accidents are officially reported.

The data are referred to the 2012 year

Engined Ultralights the accidents were 13 with 20 fatalities (last year 22 fatalities).

Parapent and Delta

Parapent 3 fatalities (last year 3)

Deltas 2 fatality (last year 1)

Inquiry

The inquires regarding the flights accidents in the 2012 were 60.

The number of the inquires decreased from the 2005 (150) constantly.

It is very difficult to analyze, from the statistical point of view, the trend of the flying safety.
The principal reason, for the general aviation, is represented by the economical crisis that has drastically reduced the number of the hours flown by each aircraft.

Particularly determinant in reducing the flight activity is the increase of the cost of the AVGAS LL 100 that in Italy is the highest in Europe. The cost per liter of this fuel is higher than the identical amount of a good quality of wine!

It seems that several owners of general aviation aircrafts has changed rides in favour of the ultralights (or microlights) aircrafts that uses “car gas.”

At the same time it seems that in Italy the number of the single engined general aviation aircraft has substantially decreased.

In conclusion is difficult to assume that the trend about the reduction of the number of accidents, in the general aviation, represent an improvement in safety, because has to be put in correlation with the reduction of the flying activities caused by the economic depression.

Also for the engined ultralights is difficult to analize the trend because the number of accidents is increased but the number of the flying machines, in this group, is still increasing, in period of full economical crisis, with expoenencial speed.

I don’t know if this trend is the same also in other countries but, while the number of single engined (2-4 seats) general aviation planes is in a phase of progressive reduction, the number of the ultralight engined machines is in extremely fast increase.

Many of the new ultralight (or microlights) aircraft are of very sophisticated construction, many manufactured in very expensive carbon fiber, and with very advanced (and extremely expensive) avionic.

Must be observed, in base of the official evaluation of the cause of the accidents, occurred these resoult:s: In the ultralights in our country, the accidents produced by technical reasons, structurals or engine failures, are very few but that the high majority of the accidents has been produced by human factors.
THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT OBSERVATION BECAUSE SOME YEARS AGO, IN THE MICROLIGHTS AIRCRAFT THE MOST COMMON CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT WERE ATTRIBUTED TO TECHNICAL FAILURES.


MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

THIS YEAR I DID DISCOVER, WITH PLEASURE, THAT I AM STILL YOUNGER THAN IN THE LAST TEN YEARS.

FROM MY 70TH YEARS I WAS OBLIGED TO SUBMIT MYSELF TO A MEDICAL EXAMINATION, TO MAINTAIN MY FLIGHT LICENCE, EVERY 6 MONTHS.

NOW I’LL HAVE MY NEXT MEDICAL CONTROL AFTER 12 MONTHS. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE ITALIAN MEDICAL AVIATION AUTHORITIES CONSIDER ME 11 YEAR YOUNGER THAT BEFORE.

OF COURSE THIS IS A JOKE, BUT, IN CONCLUSION, IT DEPENDS THAT IN ITALY THE MEDICAL AUTHORITIES HAS DECIDED TO ADOPT THE SAME RULES OF THE MAJORITY OF THE OTHERS COUNTRIES.

THIS IS AN EXTREMELY POSITIVE ASPECT, BECAUSE IN THE PREVIOUS DECADES, EVERY TIME SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADOPTED IN THE MEDICAL RULES, THE CHANGEMENT NOT WAS POSITIVE.

BUT WE HAVE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THAT THE RULES ABOUT THE MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS APPLIED IN ITALY WERE THE MOST SEVERE THAN IN ALL THE OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

I REPEAT WHAT I DID REPORT LAST YEAR ABOUT THE VERY COMPLEX ITALIAN PROCEDURES FOR THE MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS OF THE FLYERS.

IN ITALY THE PROFESSIONAL AND COMMERCIAL PILOTS AND CREW MEMBERS ARE EVALUATED BY THE MILITARY DOCTORS IN THE SPECIFIC INSTITUTES OF THE ITALIAN AIR FORCE.

THE PPL AND GLIDERS PILOTS ARE EXAMINED BY THE DOCTORS WITH
Licence in “Aerospace Medicine” obtained after four years of Universitary post graduate course.

The parachutists, Hang gliders and the other flyers are examined by the Sport Medicine Doctors, also in this case the post Graduate licence of the M.D., are obtained through four years of postgraduated Universitary course.

In 2012 and in the first part of 2013 I personally gave some academic papers in different Italian Universities speaking about general and sport aviation.