



PRESS RELEASE
For 14 October 2022

10-year anniversary of Baumgartner's jump from the edge of space

Lausanne, Switzerland, 28 September 2022 – Ten years ago, on 14 October 2012, more than eight million people tuned in online to watch the Austrian skydiver Felix Baumgartner jump from the edge of space and set three FAI world records.

At 38 969,4m altitude above Roswell, New Mexico, Baumgartner stepped out of the pressurised capsule which was suspended from a gas balloon, wearing a specially-designed suit. He made a freefall of 36 402,6m, some of it in a “violent spin” until he pulled his parachute, stabilised and floated safely to earth.

Among the achievements made by this jump were three FAI world records:

- Maximum vertical speed (without a drogue): 1 357,6 km/h
- Exit altitude: 38 969,4 metres
- Distance of fall (without a drogue): 36 402,6 metres

In this jump, Baumgartner broke his own maximum vertical speed record which he had set in March 2012. His 14 October record still stands today, as does his fall distance record, but the exit altitude record was superseded by Alan Eustace in 2014, who rose up to the stratosphere suspended under a gas balloon, then jumped from 41 422m.

Baumgartner also became the first person to break the speed of sound without the protection or propulsion of a vehicle. He was ‘supersonic’ for 30 seconds and reached Mach 1.25. Interestingly, it was on 14 October 1947, 65 years to the day, that Chuck Yeager broke the speed of sound at Mach 1.05 in X-1 Glamorous Glennis.

Baumgartner was awarded the FAI Gold Parachuting Medal in 2014.

Notes for editors

- Baumgartner's FAI records: <https://bit.ly/baumgartner-records>
- Record file images: <https://flic.kr/s/aHsjAUrajN>
- FAI logo: bit.ly/FAI_logo
- FAI Media corner : www.fai.org/media

About FAI

FAI, the World Air Sports Federation, is the world governing body for air sports and for certifying world aviation and space records. The FAI was founded in 1905 and is a non-governmental and non-profit-making organisation recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

FAI activities include Aerobatics, Aeromodelling, Airships, Amateur-Built and Experimental Aircraft, Balloons, Drones, Gliding, Hang Gliding, Helicopters, Manpowered Flying, Microlights, Parachuting, Paragliding, Paramotors, Power Flying and all other Aeronautic activities and Space records.

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