



PRESS RELEASE
For 1 November 2018

Ninety-year anniversary of the longest standing FAI records, set by airship pilot Dr Hugo Eckener

Lausanne, Switzerland, 19 October 2018 – **On November 1, 1928, German pilot Dr Hugo Eckener, the most successful airship commander in history, landed the LZ-127 “Graf Zeppelin” airship in Friedrichshafen, Germany after a 71-hour flight.**

The 6384.50km flight, which set world records for both duration and distance flown in an airship, began in Lakehurst, New Jersey, USA on October 29 of the same year.

Ratified by FAI, the two records set by Eckener’s transatlantic flight still stand today. They are the longest standing FAI records.

About Dr Hugo Eckener

Born in 1868 in Flensburg, Germany, Eckener earned a doctorate at the University of Leipzig before starting a career as a journalist and editor.

His interest in airships began when he met manufacturer and pioneer Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin, who asked him to become the publicist for the Zeppelin airship company.

Eckener obtained his airship license in 1911 and went on to both pilot and construct airships for much of the rest of his life. He died on August 14, 1954.

About the Graf Zeppelin

Named after von Zeppelin, the LZ-127 “Graf Zeppelin” was a German-built, passenger-carrying, rigid airship that operated commercially from 1928 to 1937.

With a total gas volume of 105,000m³, it was the largest airship in the world at that time.

When it entered commercial service in 1928, the Graf Zeppelin became the first commercial passenger transatlantic flight service in the world.

Notes to editors

Record details

- Duration: <https://www.fai.org/record/2371>
- Distance: <https://www.fai.org/record/2370>
- Pictures and documents: <http://bit.ly/Eckener1928>

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.

www.facebook.com/airsports.fai

www.instagram.com/airsports.fai

www.twitter.com/airsports_fai

www.flickr.com/airsports_fai

www.fai.org

For more details, please contact:

FAI – Fédération Aéronautique Internationale

Faustine Carrera

Communication Manager

0041 21 345 10 70

communication@fai.org

###