

Narrative description of the world record three free turnpoints 12.11.2002

One day I will be ready in the morning to start with the first light... but not this morning.

We are at least one hour too late. Once again I have an 1700 km O/R on my declaration. After takeoff we find a very good ascendance very near of the startpoint. Good alignements of rotorclouds, we are quite fast north of Esquel, but as so often, the coldfront is faster. We go to the limit of rain and high overcast-clouds. No time to loose, the conditions seems to be good enough to break the free 3 turnpoint-record. In fact, towards north it's getting better and better. No circles to do, in 5000 m with 250 indicated, the Nimbus 4 allows a VNE of 285 km/h, we climb again... Along the Catanlil-Mountains and the big wave of Cordillere del Viento we make the second turnpoint north of the Vulcan Domuyo. Towards south the same way and thids time we can run in a small foehngap even a little bit more to the little airfield of Tecka. Back to the north, the good conditions allows to go very fast and there is no question, this time I can break my own two years old record. I have again half an hour and perhaps we can go to San Rafael...but this time passinfg north of Domuyo I find strong downdrafts, so I decide to land at Malargue Airport after 2624 km half an hour too early....next time to do better....

Klaus Ohlmann