

## **World Speed Record – 12.12.2002 – Out and return course of 1000km**

### **Pilot's narrative**

Steve Fosset and I prepared several day earlier for this flight and quickly readied ourselves on the day as the weather cleared for an air tow.

Our start point was approximately 80 km south west of Omarama at Clyde. The first part of the flight was slow going as the wave was not good, but as we headed north past Omarama the conditions improved. Our time to the top turn point on Isolation Hill, 524 km away from Clyde was reasonable and the conditions were improving for the return to Clyde.

Middle level wave of about 15'000ft made the return easy and a climb to 21'000 ft east of Mount Hutt gave us an easy run back into the wave in the McKenzie Basin. There was substantial cloud build up to the West and East of Omarama, so we climbed high and could see a clearance east of track which put us on a wave line leading to within 30 km of the finish point.

The last 15km was flown in minimal visibility but we managed to reach the finish point with minimal margin and return to Omarama to land.

Our average speed was 166.3 km/h. This was our third flight on this task in as many weeks.

Terry Delore.