

From the Editor

Publication Date

This is the fourth issue of Volume 39 of *TS*, corresponding to October–December, 2015. For the record, the issue was published in April, 2016.

Sailplane Development Panel Meeting

We are grateful to Helmut Fendt for the following report:

“The OSTIV Sailplane Development Panel (SDP) had its annual meeting on 5th and 6th October 2015 at the Wasserkuppe, Germany, at the facilities of the German Sailplane Museum.

“Looking on Aviation Administration issues, cooperation of OSTIV SDP with EASA is well established, e.g. by using SDP’s expertise for adaption of the Certification Specifications (CS-22). This time, alleviations for certification of “Standard Changes,” maintenance and the approach for a “Gliding Rule Book” were presented.

“Regarding actual technical issues, Prof. Loek Boermans gave a presentation about gust load factors that may have an influence on strength calculations for sailplanes. A request from IGC to OSTIV concerning an increase of the MTOW of gliders for an update of sporting rules was discussed and answered. A very special topic was the exchange of experience on the “Spiral Dive.” This flight attitude, seldom experienced, but important to be counteracted as fast as possible, might get more attention in certification, as well as in manuals. A presentation about “Aeroelasticity” (Flutter) showed new developments in ground vibration tests and in flight measurement that may assist sailplane designers during their work.

“Proposals to award noteworthy developments and recognized persons in glider aviation were also on SDP’s agenda.

“The “Berblinger Competition” was also brought to OSTIV SDP’s attention, which is aimed for design of an aircraft able to conduct a “Danube flight” in 2020 with as little pollution as possible.

“Furthermore, SDP had the opportunity to watch old gliding movies from the Sailplane Museum’s archive, e.g. about the flight of Wolf Hirth in a sailplane over the skyline of New York in the 1930s.

“Photographer Peter Selinger took advantage of this unique opportunity to gather the SDP members around the Akaflieg Darmstadt D 36, which is on permanent display at the museum. The lineup prominently features Gerhard Waibel, one of the principal designers of this historic sailplane (*photo, below*).

“The next SDP meeting is planned for October 2016 in Bern, Switzerland, or alternatively for January 2017 in Benalla, Australia.”

Thank You

This issue marks the completion of my term as Editor-in-Chief. The enthusiasm and technical depth of the *TS* community — authors, associate editors, reviewers, and readers — has been a great source of inspiration and I am grateful for the privilege of serving. The journal is passing into good hands. And with that — I stand relieved!

Very Respectfully,

Judah Milgram

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Members of the the OSTIV Sailplane Development Panel (SDP) take a break from their annual meeting at the German Sailplane Museum at the Wasserkuppe to gather around the Akaflieg Darmstadt D 36. Standing, from left: Hamid Hampai, Prof. Loek Boermans, Eric DeBoer, Prof. Rolf Radespiel, Jannes Neumann, Christoph Kensche, Matthieu Scherrer, Gerhard Waibel (one of the D 36’s lead designers), Joachim Krauter, Paul Anklam, Michael Greiner, Jan Schwchow, Adrian Schwitalla, Helmut Fendt; kneeling behind wing: Werner Scholz. Photo: Peter Selinger.