

This issue may precede *Technical Soaring*, Vol. 32, No. 1/2, January-June 2008. The double-issue contains the seminal studies on pilot seat protection of Dr. Tony Segal.

The announcement for the XXIX OSTIV Congress is at the beginning of this issue. The Congress will be held 6 to 13 August 2008 at the site of the 30th World Gliding Championships in the Open-, 18m- and 15m Class in Lüsse-Berlin, Germany. Please submit your studies to the Congress so we can all learn from each other!

This issue continues the publication of papers presented at the XXVIII Congress of OSTIV held at the site of the 29th World Gliding Championships in Eskilstuna, Sweden, 8 to 15 June 2006. The Pirker and Scherrer papers were presented at that Congress.

This issue contains a contributed paper by Lindeman and colleagues providing the first results in *Technical Soaring* of the so-called OSTIV Mountain Wave Project in Argentina. Also, a contributed paper by Maul appears which provides soaring flight characteristics extracted from flight-recorder data.

The Associate Editors and I located the reviewers of the manuscripts in this issue: the Pirker manuscript (Hindman), the Scherrer manuscript (Maughmer), the Lindemann, et al. manuscript (Hindman) and the Maul manuscript (Trimmel). The final manuscripts were proof read by Jeffery and Linda Hostetler and Dr. Rolf Hertenstein of the USA and Dr. Olivier Liechti of Switzerland. Finally, to assure accuracy of the manuscripts, each senior author received the 'galley-proof' period prior to publication for 'corrections-only'.

I applaud the team of unselfish volunteers that made this issue possible in a timely manner: associate editors, peer-reviewers, proof-readers and authors. Thank you!

For your information, indexes for *Technical Soaring* can be found at www.ostiv.fai.org (by issue) and at soaringweb.org/Soaring_Index/Technical_Soaring (by author, subject and issue). Hard-copies of back issues can be obtained from the OSTIV Secretariat.

Finally, you are encouraged to send comments on papers to me so a useful dialogue can occur with the author(s).

Ward Hindman

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