

Subject:	Technical & Safety Committee Report		Annex:	29
Author(s):	Knut Ekerhovd		Agenda ref.:	
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**INTERNATIONAL PARACHUTING COMMISSION
TECHNICAL AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
Chairman's Report
IPC Plenary Meeting, Lisbon-Portugal, 28th January- 01st February 2003**

The objectives of the IPC Technical and Safety Committee are:

- To co-ordinate FAI Member countries' activities to further the development of the technical and safety aspects of parachuting throughout the world.
- To promote international standards and medical requirements for sport parachuting.
- To assemble, analyse and disseminate such information and statistics on parachuting activities in the FAI Member's countries as can contribute to the improvement of equipment, training methods and to parachuting safety.
- To provide a forum for the exchange of information and discussion of mutual parachuting safety problems.

The IPC Technical and Safety Committee has standing authority to collect, store and process data and information relevant to parachuting safety. All IPC Members and their Delegates are obliged to provide all data requested by the Committee. The Technical and Safety Committee has standing authority to publish such information, as it deems relevant to the promoting of parachuting safety. The role of the Committee is advisory.

2003 have been a quiet year for the Technical and Safety Sub-Committee. The chairman has had no questions or requests on the Sub-Committee's work or work not done.

In 2002 the Committee presented the booklets for the "International Certificates of Proficiency". This standard document and is available from FAI headquarters in Lausanne, and can then be issued by the individual parachuting associations of each country.

The T&S Committee still believes that the Annual Safety Survey is a most valuable publication for everybody involved in the development of safer parachuting. The research this year was once again very well performed by Liam McNulty of Ireland. The Committee is happy to report that six respondents in the survey presented at the meeting in Brazil were new. Unfortunately two nations who previously responded by filling out the questionnaire did not in last year's survey. If the positive trend in responding nations continues, we will be more able to pinpoint any trends. The Safety Survey and the AAD Survey will be presented at this meeting. Again, we urge you to complete the annual IPC Safety Survey, if possible, right here at this meeting. It helps to pinpoint problem areas and facilitates the formulation of any remedial intervention.

To make it easier for IPC nations to fulfill the intentions of the Sporting Code to "*facilitate the freedom to practice parachuting around the world*" the Committee will discuss the possibility to collect and publish information on each nation's national parachutist certificates and requirements for parachuting equipment. Availability of information on ie. requirements for national A- to D-licenses, repack cycles and insurance attached to license or membership, may be crucial for traveling athletes. The Committee has learned that the US FAA now might accept national repack requirements for repack and inspections cycles for foreign jumpers. The Committee must decide on if making this kind of information available is within the objectives, the authority and economical limits of the committee, IPC and FAI.

The T&S Sub-Committee has earlier years received several requests from parachuting nations to offer advice and assistance on technical matters. These were dealt with on an ad hoc basis.

55th FAI/IPC PLENNARY MEETING 2004

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Members are reminded to make use of this facility and to inform their associations that this advisory service is available to all.

The Technical and Safety Committee thanks all delegates and others that support our by answering all relevant surveys. I personally would like to thank Mr Liam McNulty for his work this, and prior years.

Oslo, November 11th, 2003

Knut M. Ekerhovd
Chairman IPC Technical and Safety Committee