PRESS RELEASE
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Done! Solar Impulse 2 completes First Round-The-World Solar Flight and writes Aviation History!

Lausanne, Switzerland, 26 July 2016 – **They did it! After over 12 years of research and design, Swiss pioneers Dr. Bertrand Piccard (Initiator, Chairman and Pilot) and André Borschberg (Co-founder and CEO and Pilot) finished the first round-the-world solar flight, powered only by the sun with no fuel or polluting emissions. After 17 months since the first departure in March 2015 in Abu Dhabi (UAE), they landed at its original take-off point at this morning, 26 July at 02:05 CET (00:05 UTC, 04:05 Local Time). Since the beginning of the adventure, FAI has received 19 world record claims from the Solar Impulse Team.**

"Who could have once imagined that FAI World Records would be set by electric airplanes producing their own energy with the sun and flying around the Earth without fuel. This is the magic of aviation: to innovate, inspire, surprise, and push us always further for the benefit of humankind. May everyone now implement on the ground the same pioneering spirit of clean technologies for a better quality of life," Dr. Bertrand Piccard stated.

André Borschberg added: "It seems clear today that electrical propulsion has a great future in the aviation industry, simply thanks to its incredible energy efficiency. Setting firsts and breaking records of course help to demonstrate the potential of new technologies and solutions."

The current records achieved and claims received by the Solar Impulse 2 Team are listed below:

ID	Group	Type of World Record	Performance	Date	Claimant	Status
TBA	CS	Flight Around the World	TBA	2016-07-26	Solar Impulse Team	Performance Notification
17885	C-d VI	Speed over a recognised course	72,2 km/h	2016-07-13	André Borschberg	Claim received
17868	CS	Distance along Course, pre-declared waypoints	5'850 km	2016-06-23	Bertrand Piccard	Claim received
17869	C-d VI	Altitude	8'535 m	2016-06-23	Bertrand Piccard	Claim received
17870	C-d VI	Distance	5'739 km	2016-06-23	Bertrand Piccard	Claim received
17875	C-d VI	Speed over a recognised course	80,6 km/h	2016-06-23	Bertrand Piccard	Claim received
17838	C-d VI	Altitude	7'315 m	2016-05-13	Bertrand Piccard	Claim received
17839	C-d VI	Distance	1'537.5 km	2016-05-13	Bertrand Piccard	Claim received
17840	C-d VI	Speed over a recognised course	84 km/h	2016-05-13	Bertrand Piccard	Claim received
17830	CS	Distance along a course, pre-declared waypoints	3'927 km	2016-04-24	Bertrand Piccard	Claim received
17831	CS	Absolute altitude	9'420 m	2016-04-24	Bertrand Piccard	Claim received
17832	CS	Gain of height	8'919 m	2016-04-24	Bertrand Piccard	Under review
17593	CS	Straight distance, pre-declared waypoints	6'449,8 km	2015-07-03	André Borschberg	Current record
17594	CS	Duration	117 h 52 min	2015-07-03	André Borschberg	Current record
17595	CS	Free Distance along a course	7'039.9 km	2015-07-03	André Borschberg	Current record
17429	CS	Straight distance, pre-declared waypoints	1'468 km	2015-03-10	Bertrand Piccard	Current record

* Class C-d VI: Electric – powered Aeroplanes
** Class C-S: Solar-powered Aeroplanes

The Solar Impulse 2 Route:

Flight	Route	Duration	Distance	Pilot
Leg 1	Abu Dhabi (UAE) to Muscat (OMA)	13 hours 01 minute	772 km	André Borschberg
Leg 2	Muscat (OMA) to Ahmedabad (IND)	15 hours 20 minutes	1'593 km	Bertrand Piccard
Leg 3	Ahmedabad (IND) to Varanasi (IND)	13 hours 15 minutes	1'170 km	André Borschberg
Leg 4	Varanasi (IND) to Mandalay (MYA)	13 hours 29 minutes	1'536 km	Bertrand Piccard
Leg 5	Mandalay (MYA) to Chongqing (CHN)	20 hours 29 minutes	1'636 km	Bertrand Piccard
Leg 6	Chongqing (CHN) to Nanjing (CHN)	17 hours 22 minutes	1'384 km	Bertrand Piccard
Leg 7	Nanjing (CHN) to Nagoya (JPN)	44 hours 09 minutes	2'942 km	André Borschberg
Leg 8	Nagoya (JPN) to Hawaii (USA)	117 hours 52 minutes	8'924 km	André Borschberg
Leg 9	Hawaii (USA) to San Francisco (USA)	62 hours 29 minutes	4'086 km	Bertrand Piccard
Leg 10	San Francisco (USA) to Phoenix (USA)	15 hours 52 minutes	1'113 km	André Borschberg
Leg 11	Phoenix (USA) to Tulsa (USA)	18 hours 10 minutes	1'570 km	Bertrand Piccard
Leg 12	Tulsa (USA) to Dayton (USA)	16 hours 34 minutes	1'113 km	André Borschberg
Leg 13	Dayton (USA) to Lehigh Valley (USA)	16 hours 49 minutes	1'044 km	Bertrand Piccard
Leg 14	Lehigh Valley (USA) to New York (USA)	04 hours 41 minutes	265 km	André Borschberg
Leg 15	New York (USA) to Seville (ESP)	71 hours 23 minutes	6'765 km	Bertrand Piccard
Leg 16	Seville (ESP) to Cairo (EGY)	48 hours 50 minutes	3'745 km	André Borschberg
Leg 17	Cairo (EGY) to Abu Dhabi (UAE)	48 hours 37 minutes	2'597 km	Bertrand Piccard

The epic journey started on 09 March 2015 when the Solar Impulse 2 took off the first time at 03:12 UTC from Abu Dhabi (UAE) and ended with the last touchdown today's morning, 26 July 2016 on its original take-off point. On overall, it took the whole team 17 months for the circumnavigation, by landing in four continents, nine different countries, 16 stops in 16 destinations, over 42.000 km and over 555 hours of flight.

The longest leg, an 8.924 km flight from Nagoya in Japan to Hawaii, USA, lasted nearly 118 hours and saw Mr. Borschberg break the FAI World Record for longest (Duration) uninterrupted solo flight.

During this fantastic adventure the Si2 Team touched down at historically significant destinations, such as Dayton, which is considered to be the birthplace of the legendary Wright Brothers. Additionally, the aircraft has been flown by both alternating pilots above iconic landmarks such as the Statute of Liberty on the way to New York or Pyramids of Giza on the way to Cairo. Additionally, whilst being aboard, Piccard had live conversations with aviation entrepreneur Richard Branson and United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon as he was airborne over the Pacific Ocean on "Earth Day" (22 April 2016) when the Paris Climate Agreement was signed by over 175 nations.

FAI, the World Air Sports Federation, would like to congratulate the whole Team of Solar Impulse 2 on this extraordinary achievement of circumnavigating the globe without a drop of fuel.

- High resolution pictures of the flights are available on Flickr

About the FAI

The Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI), the World Air Sports Federation, is the world governing body for air sports and for certifying world aviation and space records. The FAI was founded in 1905 and is a non-governmental and non-profit-making organisation recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

FAI activities include Balloons and Airships, Power Flying, Gliding, Helicopter flight, Parachuting, Aeromodelling, Aerobatics, Hang Gliding, Microlight and Paramotor Flying, Amateur-Built and Experimental aircraft, Manpowered Flying, Paragliding and all other Aeronautic and Astronautic sporting activities.

For more details, please contact the FAI – Fédération Aéronautique Internationale

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