

F7 (Aerostats)

ACTIVITY REPORT 2008

1-SC MEMBERS

- Marcel PREVOTAT (Chairman, France, NAC = FFAM)
- Technical experts:
 - Andy BOOTH (Project Manager at Cameroon Balloons, RC balloonist, UK)
 - Patrick DECOCK (RC Balloonist, Belgium)
 - Olaf SCHNEIDER (RC Balloonist, DMFV, Germany)
 - Patrick DIEUZY (RC Balloonist, FFAM, France)

Hartmut NEUFFER (Germany) died in a traffic accident and was not replaced.

Need to get an official technical expert from USA where we estimate around 200 RC hot air balloons and replacement of Hartmut.

2-CIAM ACTIVITIES:

- Preparation and submission of amendments to the F7A rules (accepted by Plenary).
- Refinement of the RC Balloons survey,
- Preparation of a brochure (construction, operation of RC hot air balloons). French edition available.

3-COMPETITIONS AND MEETINGS IN 2008:

- No official international contest in 2008 and none currently scheduled in 2009.
- Two international meetings: Brigachtal (Germany by DMFV, the winner is Bernard BILQUEY from France), Warmeriville (France, non NAC). No official report submitted.
- French championship: Vesoul. The winner is Jérôme BILQUEY. Official report submitted to FFAM.
- 2 competitions in France (Annonay, Vesoul)
- Several meetings in France (Les Saisies, Annonay, Reims, Tours), Germany (Brigachtal, Leipzig, Stuttgart, Tannheim, Gosau...), Belgium, UK (Bristol), Nederland, Switzerland (Chateau d'Oex) and Austria.

4-ORIENTATIONS FOR 2009:

- Need to create an "Aerostat" section in all the involved countries, with emphasis on USA, Germany and Austria. Currently, only France has such a section.
- Look at means to federate RC ballooning activities between NAC – non NAC associations. Objective is to avoid separate groups/associations. *Except France (around 50 % RC Balloonists at French NAC = FFAM), most of the RC Balloonists are not licensed in NACs. In Germany, DMFV is strongly active.*
- Look at the possibilities to let non NAC organizing official contests under NAC supervision/agreement.
- Reinforce the increasing relationship with pilots of size balloons with increasing participation of the RC Balloons in public meetings. Contacts to be implemented with the size balloons association to let know our activities.
- French championship planned October 10-11th in BAGNOLS sur CEZE
- 8 meetings planned in Germany, 4 in France, several in Belgium, Nederland and UK. No feedback from USA (Albuquerque ???)
- Edition of a brochure and slideshow.
- No changes to the F7A rules to be submitted.