



# EUROPE AIR SPORTS

The Association representing National Aero Clubs and European Air Sports Organizations in Regulatory Matters with European Authorities and Institutions.

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## **Report Secretary-General over the year 2004, General Meeting, Friedrichshafen, April 23 2005.**

### **1. General items.**

- The main developments in the year were the statutory reconstruction of Europe Air Sports by admitting European Air Sports Unions as members and the institution of a Programme Manager.
- The General Meeting and Technical Conference were held in Cambridge, 17 and 18 April 2004. Reference is made to the minutes S4025.
- Board meetings have been held in concurrence with the Technical Meeting on 16 April and on 28 February, 1 May, 23 September and 21 November. The latter was located in Pleguien in the home of the former President, Olivier Burghelle, on the occasion of the transfer of the Presidency to the new President, Sir John Allison.
- Close co-ordination was maintained with FAI officers. FAI financial support has continued for the representation in specific working groups.
- A partnership contract has been signed with the EU Office of (German) Sports in Brussels from mid-year. This Office assists in monitoring information from, and arranging contacts with EU officials.
- The membership comprised at the end of the year 23 active, paying National Aero Clubs / Associations, and the EGU, EPU and EHPU as new members.

### **2. European Commission / Parliament matters.**

- Our Permanent Delegate to the European Commission (EC) and European Parliament (EP) is Louis Berger keeping up the contacts with various EC units and the EU Office of Sports.
- Main developments were the full operational process of the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and the start of operation of the Single European Sky (SES) initiative of the Commission. Both these EU institutes operate under the legal authority of the European Commission.
- SES is dealing with airspace structure, regulation and air traffic infrastructure, with mandates to Eurocontrol for the design and implementation of various airspace related elements, including a complete reconstruction of the European air traffic management system (indicated as SESAME – Single European Skies Air Traffic Management ?).  
An Industry Consultative Body (ICB) is the legally established advisory body. Europe Air Sports is not a member, but has taken various steps to reach a recognized status, including a visit with a Board delegation to the responsible SES manager, Mr Van Houtte and his secretary Mr Chris North. This process is still going on. Europe Air Sports has been present at the Airspace User Group for the ICB, and held a meeting with the ICB Chairman recently.



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- The EC insurance requirements for air carriers and aircraft operators in the EU (Regulation 785/2004 of April 2004) involved a substantial lobbying effort by EAS officers. The Regulation will take legal effect 30 April 2005. Though not favourable, it looks like the damage has been contained, and is far more acceptable generally than the first draft.
- During the year an EC Directive on driving licenses and trailer weights was developed with potential impact to the air sports community, which required significant lobbying efforts. Limitations on trailer weight and medical requirements could have damaged our community. Fortunately the requirements in the final version (just recently) proved to be acceptable. In this we discovered allies in the Caravaners.

### 3. Eurocontrol matters.

- Europe Air Sports is a regular member of the ATMS/CNS Consultancy Group (ACG). Louis Berger has attended meetings. Main areas of attention are the airspace classification, mode S transponders and the 8.33 kHz vertical expansion study.
- In addition Marcel Felten participated in the working group for Airspace Strategy, Task Force-A, where airspace classification issues are developed. Important decisions on the flight levels, where increasing requirements for air traffic control are to be imposed (airspace bands), have been reached for the intermediate level of FL195.  
Discussions in workshops on the level for the Lower Airspace have gone on and an ENPRM (European Notice of Proposed Rule Making) has been issued. Europe Air Sports has submitted a response. Just recently (March 2005) a satisfactory conclusion has been published. This will be discussed in the General Meeting.
- Another important issue has been the proposed implementing rule for a common charging scheme for Air Navigation Services. This has triggered a wide protest and an ENPRM has been issued.
- Various Workshops have been held for these ENPRMs and our representatives have attended these meetings.
- Francois van Haaff participated in, or closely monitored, the ADS Program Subgroup (ADS PSG), a.o. in developments of ADS-B.  
He also takes an active interest in the developments of the low-power transponder, which may be necessary for non-powered aircraft if mode S is mandated in the future.
- Europe Air Sports has participated in the General Aviation Briefing Day 27 February 2004.



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#### 4. JAA matters.

- As a result of the establishment of the EASA various activities in the JAA organization have ceased to function.
- The Regulation Sectorial Team is still functioning as is the Licensing Sectorial Team. Harry Schoevers and Rudi Schuegraf are participating in these teams.
- The Licensing Sectorial SubTeam (Medical) is attended by Dr Peter Saundby. He is active as usual in a number of issues where air sports are affected: medical fitness and third party risk assessment.

#### 5. EASA developments.

- The EC legislation to the formation of EASA (27 September 2002) has resulted in an operational status one year later (28 September 2003). The year 2004 was characterized as the first year with a full programme of regulatory activities.
- A consultation round with regard to Notice of Proposed Amendment (NPA) 2/2004 amending Regulation 1592 (Essential Requirements of Pilot Proficiency and Air Operation) started in May and resulted in a Response Document in September that was put up for comments again. Europe Air Sports participated fully in the responses, coordinated in a meeting in Paris in July. Europe Air Sports' general policy was laid down in a "Vision Paper" (S4046, July 2004). In the final EASA Opinion to the EC (December 2004) a proposal was included to allow a lighter license and simpler operational requirements for non-commercial non-complex aircraft. In addition, implementation might be carried out by accredited qualified bodies.
- One of the main controversial items for sports aviation lies in the Regulation for Continued Airworthiness (2042/2003 Part-M). Regulation of non-commercial activities was deferred until a Regulatory Impact Assessment had been carried out. This process was contracted to Air Eurosafe and is still going on. An EASA Opinion is expected in the near future (mid 2005). Europe Air Sports has been very active and in particular the EGU specialists.
- Another issue of importance was the proposed regulation for fees and charges that EASA could levy for services and products. This would impact the glider manufacturing industry and (major) modifications in particular. The final directive 488-2005 has been concluded in March 2005 and will be reviewed annually.
- Europe Air Sports is represented at the consultative bodies of EASA, the Advisory Body of Interested Parties (ABIP) for the EASA Management Board and the Safety Standards Consultative Committee (SSCC) for the EASA Executive Director. Members for Europe Air Sports are Harry Schoevers (ABIP) and Rudi Schuegraf (SSCC). ABIP and SSCC each have held 4 meetings.

Note: ABIP has been renamed EASA Advisory Body (EAB).



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### 6. Organizational matters.

- The main issue was of course the recruitment and selection of a Programme Manager. At and after the General Meeting the members agreed on a substantial increase of the subscriptions and some members – in particular the new members EGU and EHPU, as well as Deutscher Aero Club and the Royal Aero Club of the UK - provided special funds for hiring a professional paid individual as Programme Manager. In an extensive advertisement and selection procedure a Programme Manager, Michael Paul, was contracted as a consultant in early November.
- The activities in the secretariat have maintained a high level. Incoming mail and outgoing mail have stabilized. But e-mail correspondence has continued to increase. The increase of internal and external meetings has added to the workload. Formal submissions of positions and responses to official documents require close attention.  
The updating of the website has suffered severe delays due to the revision of the FAI server in the second half of last year. It is now being transferred to the new FAI system and is now available again.
- Attention to the financial bookkeeping, carried out by the Secretary-General, and analyses of financial data, have intensified. The Secretary-General has recently transferred this activity to the Treasurer.