

# Sailplanes in Integrated Programs

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# Sailplanes

#### Classes

- Unpowered
- Powered:
  - TMG (Touring Motor Glider)
  - Self-sustaining
  - Self-launching



### Launch Methods

- Self-launch
- Aerotow
- Winch



## **Soaring Techniques**

- Thermal
- Ridge
- Wave



<u>Link to the video</u> played at this point during the presentation to show the discussed sailplane classes, launch methods, and soaring techniques.



#### Tried and Tested

- Long military tradition
  - Inexpensive, robust platform
  - Proficiency training



<u>Link to the video</u> played at this point during the presentation to show how the military continues to use sailplanes to deliver competency-based training.





#### Relevant to Airline Pilots

- "High-alpha culture"
  - Capt. Sarah Kelman, 2013 RAeS International Flight Crew Training Conference
- Included as additional training:
  - Air France/Transavia (France)
  - Air Dream College ATO (Portugal)
  - Quality Fly ATO (Spain)





#### Power Required

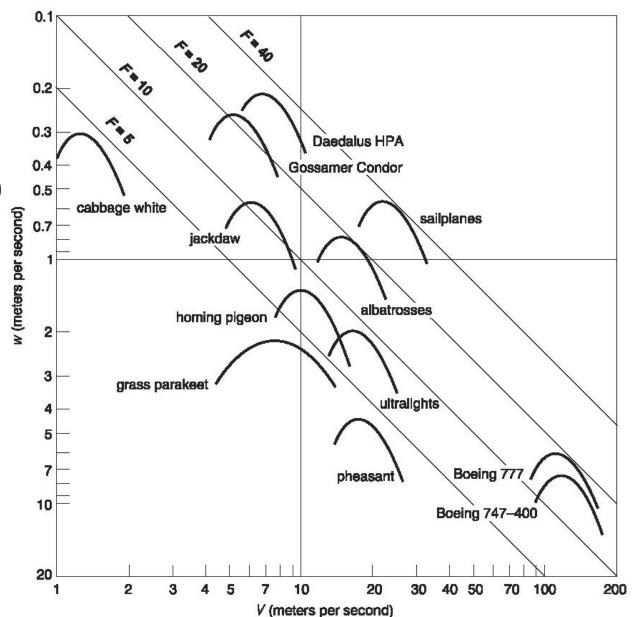
$$P_{req} = vD = v\frac{W}{F} = wW$$

- Finesse or lift-to-drag ratio:
  - Training aeroplane: 10 to 15
  - TMG: 25
  - Training sailplane: 40
  - Competition sailplane: 55+



### **Practical Soaring Limit**

- Henk Tennekes: w < 1 m/s
- Achieved with light weights, low speed, F > 30
- Soaring techniques extract energy from the atmosphere
- Sailplanes represent existing, zero-emission technology capable of prolonged flight



## Sustainability: leader

- Sailplanes push schools to high solar irradiance zones:
  - New criteria for school location/expansion
  - Airspace decongestion
  - Seasonal distribution of programs
  - Solar farms at the airfield
  - Virtual battery to balance supply and demand



### Sustainability: companion

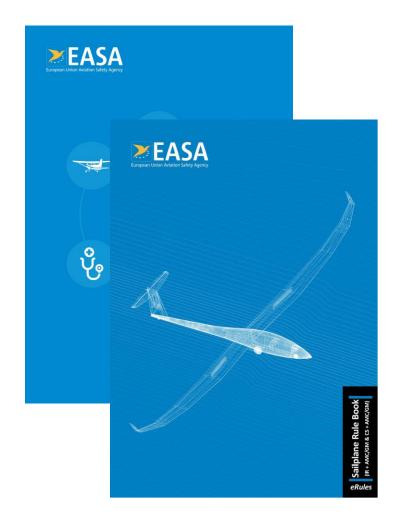
- Sailplanes compensate for some of the challenges of new technologies:
  - SAF: availability and cost
  - FSTDs, including XR: degree of fidelity
  - Electric airplanes: endurance and downtimes
- Sailplanes can also strengthen them:
  - Energy/fuel-conscientious pilots
  - Promote the use of VR in online competitions
  - Ease the student transition to electric airplanes, maximizing their endurance when flown using soaring techniques



# Rulemaking Proposal

#### **Current Regulations**

- Part-FCL & Part-SFCL
- Crediting:
  - Modular: up to 30 hours PIC (toward 200 hours)
  - Integrated: up to 20 hours dual in TMG or helicopters, but not sailplanes (toward 195 hours)



### Rulemaking Proposal

- Review of AMC1 to Appendix 3 to include sailplanes and the SPL syllabus
  - 15% of airplane time of a standard integrated program
- Equivalency of exercises:
  - Phases 1 and 2: local and basic UPRT
  - Phase 3: navigation
- Further developments in electric, self-launching sailplanes could allow more crediting

## **Expected Benefits**

- Enriched integrated route
- Extra license as a sustainable tool to prevent competency decay
- ATOs can reduce operating costs and continue to invest in clean, developing technologies
- Increased demand allows manufacturers to improve electric-powered sailplanes
- Gas emissions are reduced



#### Credits

- Featured photographers:
  - Marc Palliser
  - Marc Michel
  - Marcelo Castilhos de Oliveira
  - J.B.
  - Julien Bersheim
  - Chris Muir
  - Odin Van Oord
  - Lennart Batenburg
  - Vincent Posbic
  - Emanuel Linert
  - Stuart Schofield
  - Sergio Gómez Brito

- Polar diagram:
  - H. Tennekes, *The Simple Science of Flight: from Insects to Jumbo Jets*, MIT Press, 2009
- Featured videos
  - Cumulus Production (Nicolas)
  - U.S. Air Force Academy
- Featured organizations
  - Air France/Transavia
  - Air Dream College
  - Alexander Schleicher GmbH
  - Força Aérea Portuguesa
  - Royal Air Force Air Cadets
  - U.S. Air Force Academy



Q&A



1<sup>st</sup> carbon neutral flight academy in Spain