

Newsletter of the
British Association of RC Soarers

SOARER

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WINGS - GREAT "HOW TO" FEATURE
ELEVEN MODEL DRAWINGS
AUTOSTABILITY



Historic moment captured by Denis Christie's camera as Prof. Dr. Richard Eppler, watched by BARCS President Wick Neve, signs the E193 rib which is to form the centre piece of the new Eppler Trophy.

BARCS AGM, December 2007

Philip Kolb - F3J champion and Pike Perfect designer

In F3J competitions, Philip Kolb is an enduring "champion of champions." CONTEST-Eurotour is the world's most testing of F3J leagues, and he has been champion in the years 1999, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007. Only he can answer what went wrong in 2000 and 2002!

This year, he won the league in style. Although based now in Turkey, he flew in nine of the 13 competitions. He scored the maximum 103 points - 100 points for winning the preliminary rounds and three extra points for winning the fly-off - in four contests, Germany, Bulgaria, Holland and Slovenia.



Philp Kolb celebrating in the Czech Republic with the Vostrels on his visit to inspect the first production models of his Pike Perfect after a year of top-secret and furtive prototypes. (Winter 2006)

In the Hollandglide fly-off, the last metre is divided into five sections, pilots losing a point for every 20 cm away from the spot. Philip flew 14 minutes 56.70 seconds and landed 7 cms away, then 14 minutes 54.40 seconds landing 35 cm from the spot.



Winner of the Trnava Cup prior to the 2007 F3J European Championships with his prize of a “Supra” rather than the usual Pike Perfect. (Summer 2007)

Today, in awarding him the Eppler Trophy, BARCS not only honours Philip Kolb as a pilot, but recognises the design skills, aerodynamic knowledge and experience of moulded composites which he gave to SAMBA Models in the Czech Republic in the realisation of the Pike Perfect.

Designed and developed during 2005, flight tested, proven and already a winner during 2006, the Pike Perfect has proved to be the most successful F3J model in major competitions during 2007. Voted the world’s best and most popular F3J model in an international pilot poll held by the Turkish Soarist Club in October, demand for the Pike Perfect still outstrips production with the Vostrel family - SAMBA - moulding up to seven models a week.

The Eppler Trophy as first awarded by BARCS 20 years ago for technical achievement. The trophy is an E193 wing rib signed by Professor Dr Richard Eppler on a visit to England in 1986, and it was made by Chris Tompkins.

The 2007 award is particularly appropriate because the success of the Pike Perfect is very largely due to its wing aerofoils which vary along the span in a non-linear transition, PK sections from 91A through to 94. Philip himself gives generous credit in his design to Professor Mark Drela at the MIT Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Frits Donker Dujvis of T U Delft and Andreas Herrig from IAG University of Stuttgart for past and ongoing development of model glider aerofoil understanding and exploitation.

BARCS salutes Philip Kolb and proudly awards him the Eppler Trophy 2007.

EPPLER TROPHY - Awarded for TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT

1987 SHEFFIELD SOARING GROUP - Development of high strength wing spars.

1988 CLENT SOARING ASSOCIATION - Promotion of BARCS Tech over many years.

1989 NICK WRIGHT - F3B World Champion.

1990 DENIS OGLESBY - Technical work with aerofoils.

1992 D & G WOODS, G LEWIS - For slope soaring models - aerobatic particularly

1993 PETERBOROUGH WINTER SERIES - Contests designed to appeal to both the competition beginner as well as the expert. (Still running in 2007-8)

1994 STU BLANCHARD - For the Calypso series of moulded models.

1997 S COCKER - PSS Models, particularly large ones.

1998 J STEVENS - The Eliminator series of wooden high performance soarers.

2001 N SHAW - Slope duration world record - 36 hours 3 minutes and 19 seconds at Ivinghoe Beacon.

2002 T BECKETT - BARCS web site 1997-2007

2003 BILL DULSON - Quality designs culminating in The Tracker 100S.

2004 M GODDEN, Mimic/Spectre Group, T ADAMS, S WITTICK and P YOUNG Development and flying of DLG/F3K models.