



DEUTSCHER AERO CLUB E.V.
MITGLIED DER FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE
UND DES DEUTSCHEN SPORTBUNDES

Deutscher Aero Club e.V. · Hermann-Blenk-Str 28 · 38108 Braunschweig

To
FAI Secretariat
and forward
FAI Amateur-built Aircraft Commission
President Mr. Pierluigi Duranti

DD/pk

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Suggestion for Nomination of the "Henri Mignet Diploma"

Dear Mr. Duranti,
Dear Members of CIACA,

In the next CIACA-meeting in April 2004 we want to suggest Mr. Robert Mair for the Henri Mignet Diploma for having developed a very new and interesting aircraft engine.

Eligibility/ Explanation:

In the Year 2002 Mr. Mair built the first aircraft (it is a weight shift microlight, none experimental one) equipped with a Biodiesel-engine (Fatty Acid Methyl Ester) in the history of aviation; Jet A-1- (Kerosene-) fueling is possible too. As you know, he achieved a total of seven world records, two of them with this "new concept" engine. Additionally this year on June, 22nd he flew with straight vegetable oil, in our opinion a historical flight.

In his main profession, Mr. Mair is a teacher (director) in a professional school, where he teaches apprentices in aviation. His school is certified to JAR 147. Mr. Mair is responsible for innovative teaching methods in his school. The apprentices come from companies like EADS, Lufthansa, Dornier (now: RUAG) and MTU.

The engine is based on a VW Lupo-3L-TDI motor and was later redesigned until finally it produced 72 horsepower and a maximum torque of 132 nm. It uses 5.2 liters of fuel per hour at 80 horsepower. A similar engine, e. g. the Rotax 582, needs about 13 liters of far more expensive fuel.

Another remarkable aspect is how this project was settled. Mr. Mair built the engine by *himself* with only some mechanical help for producing the CNC parts he needed. But during the theoretic development phase he led a group of about 10 students in order to teach them in constructing such a motor. So the whole group feels that the running engine is the baby of them all. Another case of supporting very enthusiastic young people in the aircraft business!

Best regards,

Peter Styrsky, German Delegate of CIACA

Gerhard Allerdissen, President
German Aero Club e. V.