



FAI Awards for Ballooning 2015

Nomination Form

(one form per nomination)

Name of the Award:

Montgolfier Diploma / contribution to development of ballooning (By-Law 7.2.1.2.4)

Submitted by:

NAC Czech Republic, Name: Vladimir Machula, Secretary general
and Czech Balloon Federation, Pavel Kostrhun, president

Date: January 7th, 2016

Signature and stamp:

AERO CLUB OF CZECH REPUBLIC
U Pergamenky 3
170 00 Prague 7 - Holešovice
CZECH REPUBLIC

Vladimir Machula
Secretary General

Nomination for:

Name: **Ales KUBICEK (Aleš KUBÍČEK)**

Birth date: 31. 3. 1955

Email address: info@michaelsuchyballooning.com (delegate of Czech Balloon Federation at FAI / CIA)

Reasons for nomination:

Ales Kubicek is a doyen of Czech ballooning who has served the community continuously for 35 years. He celebrated an important life jubilee in 2015 and is presently going through a difficult period in life. He was at the birth of the Czech community for recreational, sports and commercial ballooning of which he became the leader. Thanks to his life attitude, he became an inspiration for many followers. He is the founder of Kubicek Balloons Company which manufactures hot air balloons and airships. He is an aeronautical designer and stood behind the designs of most of current balloon types.

He has been designing hot-air balloons since 1980. With the aim to construct one, he and several of his friends founded a ballooning fans club Aviatik. The date 6th July 1983 marks the day of the first manned Czech production balloon flight. The first series of type certified balloons of his design were produced under the government controlled aircraft company Aerotechnik Kunovice in the early 80s. In 1990 he founded his own company Kubicek Balloons, which, thanks to its excellent production, has become one of the biggest balloon manufacturers ever.

In 1990, just several weeks after the social and political changes in the Czech Republic, he was a major contributor in the foundation of the Czech Balloon Federation of which he became the first president. He has gained a wide range of qualifications such as a pilot, test pilot, instructor and examiner. Mostly with his brother Ivan, he used to take an active part in competition ballooning. He trained and examined a large number of fllow pilots, Czech as well as foreign. For this purpose he

founded a professional training school for balloon pilots in Radesin. This has become one of the most important ballooning centers in the Czech Republic.

Sense of balloon flying by Ales Kubicek:

„I believe that balloon flying is an instrument for human transformation. A transformation that takes the fear of future away from us. The view from above teaches us to see the essential things in life and to commit oneself to somebody who transcends us. “

In March 2014 Ales Kubicek had an accident in a remote Colombian province where he was searching for new areas for ballooning. This has resulted in a serious head injury. Since then he has been dependent on a wheelchair and is being cared for by his wife Nada, family and friends.

Please provide at least one high resolution picture of the nominated person, if possible taken while practicing his/her sport or beside his/her (model) aircraft.

All nominations must be received at the FAI Head Office by **15 January 2016** at the latest in electronic format (to members@fai.org) **preferably** or by fax or post