



DEUTSCHER AERO CLUB E.V.

MITGLIED DER FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE
UND DES DEUTSCHEN OLYMPISCHEN SPORTBUNDES

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

7 JAN, 2008

Fédération Aéronautique Internationale
Mr. Max Bishop
Secretary General
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SCHWEIZ

Unser Zeichen
FAI-Ehrung

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Braunschweig
04.01.2008

Nomination of Mr. Michael Wörner and Mr. Wolfgang Matt for the Montgolfier Diploma

Dear Mr. Bishop,

The German Aero Club supports the nomination of Mr. Michael Wörner and Mr. Wolfgang Matt for the Montgolfier Diploma.

Yours sincerely,

Günter Bertram
Secretary General

To:
Delegates of the
International Ballooning Commission

From:
Marita Krafczyk, President of the German Ballooning Federation
Uwe Schneider, CIA Delegate of Germany

Date:
December 2007

Subject:

**Nomination of Mr. Michael Wörner an Mr. Wolfgang Matt
for the Montgolfier Diploma / Contribution to the Sport**

The German Balloon Federation / Deutscher Freiballon-Sport Verband e.V. (DFSV) representing the sport of ballooning on behalf of the German National Aero Club (DAeC) is pleased to submit the name of Mr. Michael WÖRNER an Mr. Wolfgang MATT for receiving the FAI General Awards for Ballooning to regonize a major contribution to the development of the sport of ballooning in general:

For many international people Michael WÖRNER and Wolfgang MATT are known as the owner of the gasballoon manufactory Ballonbau Wörner.

In 1986 the Ballonbau Wörner Corporation was established by the transfer of ownership from Leonhard Stuttgart Ballon Manufacturing in Augsburg.
After the transfer Wörner, Matt and their team built the netted gas balloons in the mind of Leonhard Stuttgart.

But they thought further into the future.

Before 1992 they developed on netless gas balloons with parachute. On this way, they solved the problems with the static and structure of the whole envelope system. They found a new envelope fabric, which was lighter and stronger as the known one, to take the additional load without stress. After a long time of development, they finally could certify

the new balloon type NL-STU by the German Luftfahrt Bundesamt in the sizes 380 m³, 510 m³, 640 m³, 840 m³ and 1000 m³ (980-3500 cubic ft.).

These netless balloons were changing the gas balloon sport.

Following this certification the German team Wilhelm Eimers and Bernd Landsmann set a new world record in duration with 92:11 hours in the category AA-07 during the Gordon Bennett Race 1995. In the year 1996 Astrid Gerhardt set the feminine world records in the category AA-05 with the altitude of 4692m, distance of 789,78 km and duration of 23:17 hours. All world records were set with netless gas balloons from Ballonbau Wörner.

Development and testing of fabrics, ropes, lines, their electric conductivity and their handling in the manufacturing process of a gas balloon are trend-setting in international gas ballooning.

Michael WÖRNER and Wolfgang MATT did an enormous amount of work to convince EASA to allow Hydrogen as a lifting gas. Thanks to them Helium, Hydrogen and Coal Gas can be used as lifting gas today.

56 netless gas balloons have been built as per December 2007.

Michael WÖRNER and Wolfgang MATT were always thinking in safety and easy handling of their balloons, too. Actually, they are developing together with a fabric manufacturer a new lightweight gas balloon fabric. It will save 1/3 of the weight of a complete envelope and limit the heating up of the filling gas.

The netless gas balloon with the light fabric will change the gas balloon sport extremely. Longer durations and distances will be achievable.

Together with their partner, Aérophile S.A., WÖRNER and MATT also developed the tethered balloon of 5000 cbm (194230 cu. ft.) which is able to lift up 30 people in altitudes of up to 300 m. Until now, there are approximately 25 Aérophile's stationed around the world. With these balloons they give "normal" people a glimpse of our beautiful sport.

If somebody needs help or information in technical problems of gas balloons, WÖRNER and MATT always have an open ear and find a way to solve it.

Most times they work in the background, silent but very effective, also on national and international gas balloon meetings.

Michael WÖRNER and Wolfgang MATT are a technical pioneers of the gas balloon sport and should be honoured for their developing work.

The German Balloon Federation is extremely pleased to have Michael WÖRNER and Wolfgang MATT as a reliable ballooning friends. We appreciate that they developed the sport of gas ballooning in general.

We therefore think it is appropriate to nominate Michael WÖRNER and Wolfgang MATT for the Montgolfier Diploma for their contribution to the sport.

We appreciate the consideration of this nomination.

Thank you very much

Marita KRAFCZYK

President of the German Ballooning Federation