



# Newsletter

British Gliding Association

**BGA Newsletter  
December 2009**

## Safety

**Safety Flash – Tug Upsets.** A BGA Safety Flash on this matter has been published at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/forms/SafetyFlashTugUpsets.pdf>

**Energy Absorbing Foam.** BGA Laws and Rules recommends that all gliders should be equipped with cushions containing energy absorbent materials. These can provide significant protection in the case of a heavy landing or a crash. Until now, Dynafoam has been the most commonly used material for this purpose. Tests have shown that Confor C45/C47 is also a suitable material and that it can provide improved comfort in use. It is planned that Sailplane and Gliding will contain an article about Confor in a future edition. There are also technical articles about the testing of Confor in the April 2009 edition of Technical Soaring and in the June 2009 edition of the Journal of Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine – see <http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/asma/asm/2009/00000080/00000006/art00011> for an abstract.

**Chart Amendments.** A reminder that the CAA regularly publishes changes to 1:250k and 1:500k aeronautical charts at <http://www.caa.co.uk/charts>. Additionally, you can subscribe to receive regular notifications of amendments (and other CAA matters) at <http://www.caa.co.uk/subscriptions>.

**GASIL.** The **November** edition of the CAA General Aviation Safety Information leaflet (GASIL) has been published. Among other information, this edition includes details of all GA safety evenings currently scheduled for this coming winter. You can download GASIL from <http://www.caa.co.uk/GASIL200910>

## Regulatory

**Change to BGA Airworthiness Organisation.** The BGA continues to develop its Part M compliant airworthiness organisation to best meet the needs of glider, SLMG and tug owners in a safe and efficient way using predominantly volunteer resources, backed up by professional support. BGA inspectors may only work on, certify or issue ARCs to EASA gliders/ other aircraft that are within the BGA airworthiness organisation. All gliders in the UK are currently deemed to be within the BGA airworthiness organisation. However, **from 1st January 2010**, the small number of gliders or other aircraft whose ARCs are not renewed through the BGA can only be maintained or released to service by BGA inspectors if they have been specifically brought into the BGA airworthiness organisation. Details of how to achieve this are at <http://www.gliding.co.uk/bgainfo/technical/part-m.htm>

**Norwich Controlled Airspace Proposals.** Norwich International Airport has published its interim report on the consultation over plans to apply for controlled airspace in the airport vicinity at [http://www.norwichairport.co.uk/downloads/Consultation\\_Initial\\_Report\\_Final\\_Issue\\_1.0.pdf](http://www.norwichairport.co.uk/downloads/Consultation_Initial_Report_Final_Issue_1.0.pdf). The BGA and other national air sports bodies continue to oppose the application.

**DfT Consultation on Aviation Security.** The Department for Transport (DfT) has launched a consultation to seek views on how they should apply the mandatory European Commission aviation security standards set by Regulation EC300/2008 and effective from 29 April 2010. The consultation explains options on 'derogating' (not applying common basic standards) to airports or their demarcated areas including where aircraft of less than 15000 kg operate. The consultation is at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open/aviationsecurity/> The BGA is working with its GA Alliance colleagues on this issue.

## BGA

**BGA Diplomas.** Every year we award BGA Diplomas for Services to Gliding at the end of our Annual General Meeting. We now invite nominations from clubs in respect of any member who, whilst not eligible for one of the major National or International Aviation Awards, have given particularly good service to gliding within the club or BGA structure. Nominations (not more than 8 to 10 lines) should be submitted by post or by Email to [Debbie@gliding.co.uk](mailto:Debbie@gliding.co.uk) by 4<sup>th</sup> January

**BGA Marketing Plan.** The BGA is committed to developing a marketing plan in support of its key strategic priorities of supporting clubs, developing participation and protecting the sport. Applications are sought from suitably qualified BGA club members who have the talent, experience and time to join a small volunteer team developing a BGA marketing plan. Professional support will be provided. The aim of the project is to establish a marketing plan by mid 2010. If you feel that you are the right person to lead or assist with the delivery of this short term project, please initially contact Debbie Carr in confidence - [Debbie@gliding.co.uk](mailto:Debbie@gliding.co.uk)

**Women's Development.** The team are currently working on its programme for this winter, and will post news on the web site shortly. The 2010 plan is to focus more on pilots who are on the verge of team qualification. It is also hoped that the Comp-ette continues after its success this year. Feedback as to how the 2009 events helped you progress this summer and what you feel would be most useful to you now would be appreciated. Are there any volunteers to help organise events in 2010? To inspire you, you might like to read the book by Gill van den Broeck on the history of Women's European and World Gliding Championships. The team has a few copies to sell price 15 Euros. Contact Liz Sparrow for details - [ebertoya@iee.org](mailto:ebertoya@iee.org)

## General

**New World Record.** Congratulations to John Williams of the Scottish Gliding Centre who has, subject to ratification, broken the world 1500km out and return record. You can read about this and John's other exploits in Argentina at <http://scottishglidingcentre.com/blog/>

