

# EL TORBELLINO

NEWSLETTER OF SAN DIEGO ORBITEERS FREE FLIGHT CLUB

AUGUST 2021



## ***Chairman's Corner – Mark Chomyn***

In last months column I expressed some optimism on the state of our loosening of COVID restrictions and a return to a “new normal” of existence. It seems unfortunately I may have been a bit premature with my prognostication. New variants of the “bug” have popped up and (at least for my part) we are now dealing with a variety of (sometimes confusing) mask- unmask options. I've decided that (as a geezer) I'll go back to wearing a mask in enclosed spaces (bank, pharmacy, grocery store) until we get some firm resolution. I hope you are all doing what you think is necessary to protect your and your family's health.

Although we aren't out of our blackout period for points contests until September, the Perris Sunday Flyers are holding non-point fun flies to fill in the summer gap. Be on the lookout for e-mails from Mike Pykelny our Competition Director for a date and time for the August fun fly.

As model builders I think we've all collected a lot of modeling items over the course of pursuing our hobby/sport. And, I know no one wants to think of that day when we may no longer be able to pursue either building or flying. I recently had an experience with assisting a wife of a club member with the disposition of his collection of modeling items. Needless to say this got me thinking of my own collection of kits, motors, balsa, and assorted finishing items and what happens to them when I no longer pursue modeling. I hope there is, or are, club members who would want my items distributed to those in model aviation who could use them. Especially younger flyers who may not have the dough to purchase such items.

The wife of the club member I mentioned above is Josephine Primbs wife of Charley Primbs (deceased) who was a member of the club back in the good old days at Otay. The items we received from Charley's collection will be offered to club members at reasonable cost and any money collected for those items will be deposited in the club treasury. I'll be bringing those items to the field in Perris for the September Orbiteers and Scale Staffel contests. Items that will be available include: balsa wood sheets of various thicknesses, boxed rubber strip, Zaic modeling books, Flying Aces reprint editions volumes 2, 3 and 4 and gas motors from .020 to .60 (spark and glow). I've already received interest from two club members on the balsa wood and one batch of the rubber, so don't hesitate to look the items over and make a deal. You snooze you lose. But that's not the end of the story as I was recently contacted by Bernie Crowe of the SCAMPS about the modeling items of Allan Arnold. The items will be cataloged by Joe Jones and a listing sent out for review. The Orbiteers have expressed an interest in getting the list from Joe so there may be more modeling items for our club members to consider.

In last months diatribe I mentioned my “failure to launch”. Well, the September Scale Staffel two-day event (Sept 4 and 5) is fast approaching and I'm still sitting on my hands. I've tried to light a fire under me to get going and finish those planes, but I guess my “keyster” has been kicked numb so many times over my lifetime that I can't feel the heat. But I've got 23 days left and a lot of coffee to drink to get it done. Idle hands are the devil's playthings. So I'm gonna stop idling.

Well. That's all I know. As the song goes, “See You In September” - Mark

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## ORBITEERS MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual Membership - \$20  
Lifetime Membership - \$250  
Non-Member Newsletter Subscription - \$15  
Junior Members 16 years old or younger - Free

### Submit Dues to Club Treasurer:

Howard Haupt  
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San Diego, CA 92117-4622

## THE FINE PRINT THE FINE PRINT

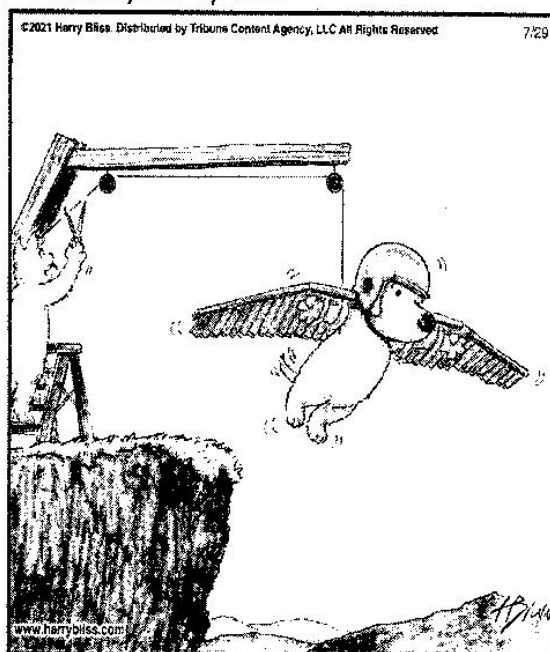
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## ORBITEER WEB SITE

[www.SanDiegoOrbiteers.com](http://www.SanDiegoOrbiteers.com)

Webmaster: Kathy McLaughlin

### **Bliss** by Harry Bliss



"I wish I could be there to see the look on the squirrel's face."

## Musings About My Recent Free Flight Activities

By Mike Jester



By my unofficial count, since 2015 I have had eighty-six articles that I wrote published in this newsletter. My goal is to make it to one hundred. This month I came up dry on topics so I will just write about my free flight activities over the last eighteen months, and some other random stuff related to our hobby.

I built eight models during the pandemic and the quasi-pandemic follow up. I am kind of burned out now on building models, and have taken a break. I understand that this is fairly common in our hobby. I will probably soon be back to stripping, gluing and covering. My eight builds were highlighted by my successful design, construction and flying of my flat wing *Three Nite* P-30. Some of you saw me fly this design at the John Oldenkamp P-30 Memorial Contest in Perris on June 13, 2021. Thirteen people competed in the open P-30 event that was held that day. The other P-30 event that was held that day was limited to John Oldenkamp's HOT BOX P-30 design. Five flyers made the first round of the fly-off in the open P-30 event.



**Official Flight by Mike Jester - June 13, 2021 John Oldenkamp Memorial P-30 Contest**





I won the open John Oldenkamp Memorial P-30 contest last month in the third round of the fly-off flying my red and yellow *Three Nite* P-30. The max time for that round was 210 seconds. My wife was my official timer and she lost sight of my P-30 at 195 seconds so that that was my official time per the AMA rules. It was enough to beat the other flyer who had made the third round of the fly-off. My daughter was chasing my P-30 on its sixth official flight and she timed that fight at a little short of five minutes. This contest win against some very experienced P-30 competitors proves that my easy-to-build *Three Nite* P-30 is a good flyer. On all six of its contest flights my P-30 was carrying around five grams of RF transmitter and batteries for a weight penalty of around 12% over the 40-gram minimum. Thanks to George Bredehoft of Volare Products for all his work in making a laser-cut short kit of my *Three Nite P-30* available for purchase at a very reasonable price. I still can't believe how much time it takes to transform a simple design into a laser-cut kit. It gives me a new appreciation of what the small suppliers in our hobby have to undertake to kit a model. Then I doubled down and wrote eight pages of building and flying tips for my *Three Nite* P-30. Seemingly endless editing ensued.



**Contest Winning *Three Nite* P-30 by Mike Jester**

At the other end of the spectrum was my Guillow's Javelin. I built this model in order to compete in the nationwide Sky Battle postal contest that was held this past Spring. It is about the size of a P-20. You had unlimited flight attempts during an official flight window and your longest time was submitted as your contest entry. Gee, catch a thermal and you would probably finish in the top three! Bob Hodes decided to compete. So did Josh Finn of J & H Aerospace, a supplier of all kinds of excellent free flight kits. This got my competitive juices flowing. Very limited modifications to the Guillow's Javelin plan were permitted. You could build in a DT so I did that not wanting to lose my model. I sought, and received, official permission to widen the fuselage of the Lancer to accept a blast tube and to add another spar to the wing to resist warping. I also got official permission to use 6 - 8# balsa wood instead of the die-cut oak included with my Guillow's Javelin kit. Plastic film covering was allowed. I think whoever thought this was a beginner's model is crazy. It was probably one of the more difficult builds I have ever lived through. Adding insult injury, I could not get my Javelin trimmed to consistently fly for more than 30-seconds. I knew I was beaten and did not bother to drive to Perris to put in any official flights. Thanks John Swain for offering to be my

official timer in the Sky Battle postal contest. All in all, it was a truly humbling experience. I had grown too confident that I could get virtually any model that I built to fly pretty well. Bob Hodes had very good results with his Guillow's Lancer which was the other model that could be flown in this postal contest.



### **Non-Contest Winning Guillow's Javelin by Mike Jester**

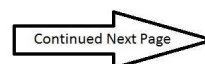
I was alarmed to read in the most August 2021 edition of the SCAMPS newsletter that test boring took place in late June near our launch area at our Perris flying field. The drilling was apparently being conducted to determine the suitability of the property for development. Riverside County is one of the hottest locations in the state, and the nation, for housing price appreciation. Many people in California are moving inland from the expensive coast so the demand for new housing in the Inland Empire is terrific. However, my recollection is that all of the acreage near the canal is supposedly in a flood plain and cannot be developed. I guess that information was not correct. Gene Drake talked to the drillers and was told they found water at a depth of 35 feet. Supposedly this would not allow for development of the property. I find it hard to believe that water can be found in that stretch Perris desert in any significant amount at such a shallow depth. Nevertheless, our club should probably re-dedicate its efforts toward finding a suitable alternative flying site just in case grading for a new housing development starts at our cherished Taibi field.

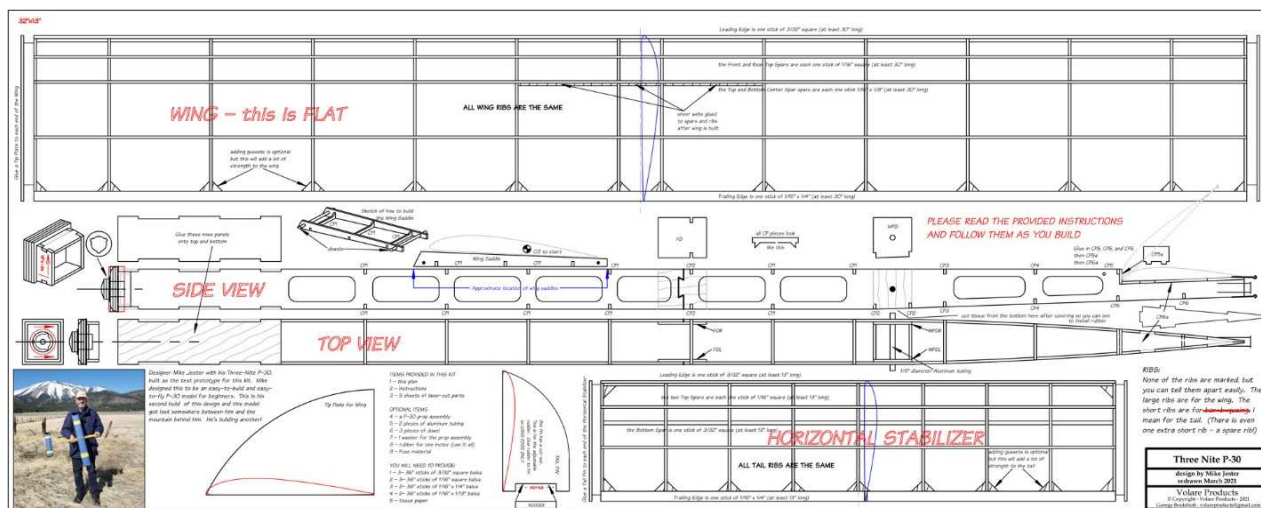
For those who don't know about it, the Volare Products website has a link to around 850 how-to articles mostly relating to construction of free flight models. There is a helpful alphabetical list that allows you to quickly scan for a subject of interest.

Wikipedia has a nice article about different types of free flight model aircraft found here [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Free\\_flight\\_\(model\\_aircraft\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Free_flight_(model_aircraft))

The "Power" section of the Wikipedia article should be revised to mention the very popular E-36 class of models that is gradually supplanting 1/2A gas models.

In conclusion, I wonder when the Grossmont gym will be re-opened for indoor free flight? It has been at least eighteen months since I flew an LPP, A-6 or P-18.





**Three Nite P-30 Plan by Volare Products**



## San Diego Orbiteers Flying Schedule 2021 Taibi Field Perris, Ca



### Primary Date

January 24 XXX  
February 21 XXX  
March 21  
April 18 XXX  
May 23  
June 13  
July  
August 15  
September 4-5  
September 17-19  
September 26  
October 17  
October 21-24  
November 13-16  
November 21  
December 19

### Rain Date

January 31 XXX  
February 28 XXX  
March 28  
April 25 XXX  
May 30  
June 27  
Perris Sunday Flyers  
Perris Sunday Flyers  
Scale Staffel  
FF Champs  
SDO Monthly  
October 24  
WestFAC  
Dual Clubs  
November 28  
December 26

### Event

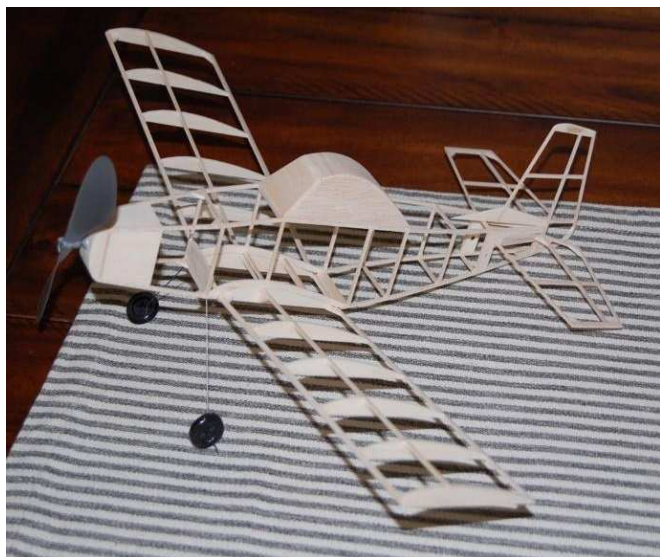
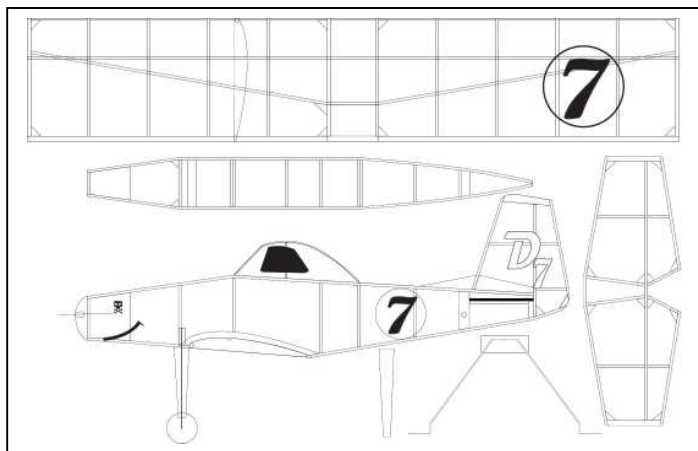
P30/Glider/Power  
Coupe/Glider/Power  
OT-NOS Rubber/Glider/Power  
P30 Oldenkamp Memorial  
Coupe/Glider/Power  
OT-NOS Rubber/Glider/Power  
Perris  
Lost Hills  
P30/Glider/Power  
Coupe/Glider/Power  
Buckeye, AZ.  
Lost Hills  
OT-NOS Rubber/Glider/Power  
Make-Up

XXX= Canceled Contest



This will be my last article since I am retiring and we are moving to Tennessee. I will either be flying on the property we bought, or looking to join a freeflight and RC club when we move. This little Embryo is based off the Disney "Dusty" aircraft, which is actually based on 3 different crop dusters, combined into one.

I have a Fred Reese Simple Duster RC kit with an Ace Foam wing I hope to build someday. My design is simple, built in a couple of days using my standard Elmers white glue. I covered the model with old Peck Polymers Domestic tissue and finished with Eze Dope. I still have an Alps printer so I was able to make my own decals. I have her balanced and final weight is 14 grams, hope to get her flying soon, but have been busy with getting read for the big move.



**FLYING  
ACES**

Squadron 41

San Diego



# Scale Staffel

## September 2021 - Outdoor Flying Contest

Saturday and Sunday, September 4-5, 2021

7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Taibi Flying Field, Perris, CA

(Location: 33.7803656, - 117.1972964)

### Prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd

### Fees

- \$8 entry fee includes one event
- \$3 for each additional event
- \$20 maximum: includes entry fee and 5 or more events.

### Contest Director

John Hutchison  
johnhutchison1@cox.net  
619-504-5731

### Awards Presentation

Immediately following the final event on Sunday

### Hotel Accommodations

Red Lion  
480 S Redlands Ave,  
Perris, CA 92570  
951-943-5577

### GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP:

The flier who earns the most 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> place points will become the 2021 Grand Champion. The trophy will be presented on Sunday, Sept 5.

### Pilot's Meeting @ 8 a.m. each day

### FAC Single Model Events

Fly any event on either day or on both days.

1. Golden Age Combined
2. Old Time Rubber Stick & Fuselage Combined (hand launch)
3. FAC 2-bit + 1 (ROG)
4. Jimmie Allen (ROG)
5. Dime Scale\*
6. Simplified Scale\*

\*(Dime Scale and Simplified Scale will be judged on the field)

7. Embryo Endurance (ROG)
8. FAC Rubber Scale / 2x Peanut Walt Mooney Combined (*Special award for 2x Peanut Walt Mooney entries*)

Mass Launch Events will use the "Delayed Launch"

### Saturday

9. FAC World War I Combat  
Wind at 8:20 a.m., Launch at 8:30 a.m.
10. FAC World War II Combat / Spanish Civil War Combined  
Wind at 9:20 a.m., Launch at 9:30 a.m.

### Sunday

11. FAC Greve / Thompson Race  
Wind at 8:20 a.m., Launch at 8:30a.m.



# FLYING ACES

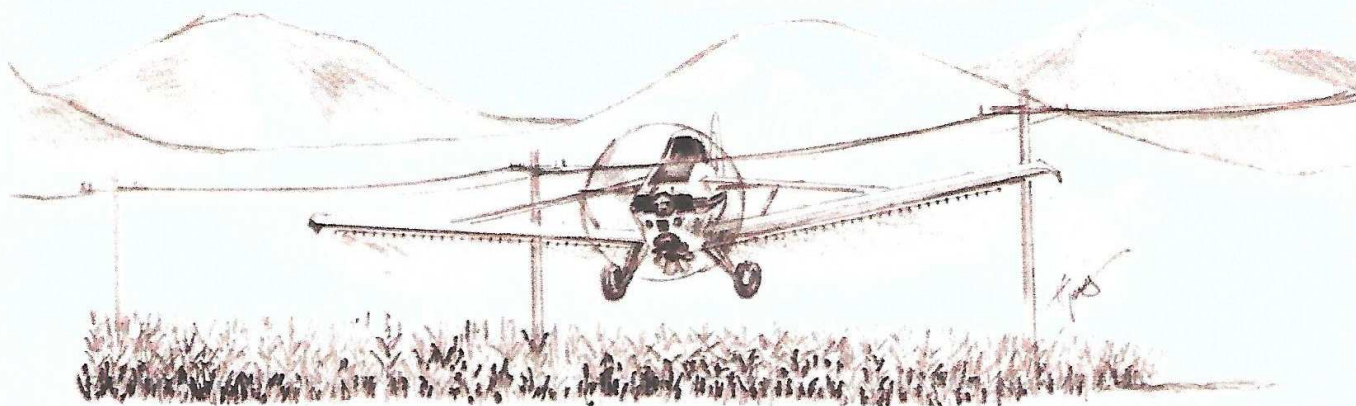
Mark Your Calendars for the

## WestFAC 2021

21 – 24 October

Rovey Field, Buckeye Arizona

Featuring Working Aircraft of the World



### Schedule of Events

| Thursday, 21 October | Friday, 22 October               | Saturday, 23 October             | Sunday, 24 October                 |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Arrival Day          | <b><u>Mass Launch Events</u></b> | <b><u>Mass Launch Events</u></b> | <b><u>Mass Launch Events</u></b>   |
| Registration and FAC | 9:00 WW1                         | 9:00 Double Trouble              | 9:00 Working Aircraft              |
| Scale Judging        | 11:00 Greve/Thompson             | 11:00 WW2                        | 11:00 Flying Horde NBM             |
| Field Available for  | <b><u>TOTF Scale Events</u></b>  | <b><u>TOTF Scale Events</u></b>  | <b><u>TOTF Scale Events</u></b>    |
| Trimming             | Crop Dusters                     | Working Aircraft                 | Mail Aircraft                      |
|                      | Dime Scale                       | Simplified Scale                 | Golden Age Monoplane/Biplane       |
|                      | Carrier Acft – Hand Launch       | Carrier Acft – Deck Launch       |                                    |
|                      | <b><u>TOTF non-scale</u></b>     | <b><u>TOTF non-scale</u></b>     | <b><u>TOTF non-scale</u></b>       |
|                      | OT Rubber Stick                  | OT Rubber Fuselage (ROG)         | 2Bit + 1 (ROG)                     |
|                      | Jimmy Allen (ROG)                | Embryo (ROG)                     | 2Bit + 1 (ROG) NBM                 |
|                      | Jimmy Allen (ROG) NBM            | Embryo (ROG) NBM                 |                                    |
|                      | <b><u>Judged Scale</u></b>       | <b><u>Judged Scale</u></b>       | <b><u>Judged Scale</u></b>         |
|                      | FAC Peanut Scale                 | FAC Jet Cat Scale                | FAC Power Scale                    |
|                      | FAC Jumbo                        | FAC Rubber Scale                 |                                    |
|                      |                                  |                                  | <b><u>Special Event 3:00pm</u></b> |
|                      |                                  |                                  | Blue Ridge Special Mass Launches   |

**Awards ceremony Sunday on the field following the Blue Ridge Special event  
informal Dinner at the Arriba Mexican Grill – self pay**

- See Field Notes on WESTFAC website as to the definition of a "working aircraft". Bring documentation to answer any questions for any unique aircraft.
- PPLC compliance checks and Dime Scale/Simplified Scale judging will be done on the field.
- Awards will be presented on the field at the end of flying on Sunday. Kanones will be awarded for first place.
- Carrier events - any naval aircraft with a tailhook is eligible.
- Mass Launches may have an unlimited motor size but we will use the Delayed Launch in which the prop is released 3-4 seconds before the aircraft are launched.
- Go to the website ([www.westernfac.com](http://www.westernfac.com)) to print out registration forms and download important field notes.
- Current AMA License is required.

**\$30 Entry Fee covers all events and all days**



## Multifeather Winglet Offers Easier Retrofit Path to Improved Efficiency

> 2% FUEL-BURN SAVING EXPECTED ON AIRBUS A330

> INSTALLATION DOWNTIME LESS THAN A DAY

Graham Warwick Washington

**A** German startup and a Portuguese airline are to test a novel drag-reducing wingtip for the Airbus A330 in the first step of a strategy to increase the efficiency and sustainability of in-service aircraft through easily retrofittable aerodynamic improvements.

The Aircraft Performance Co. (APC), based in Hamburg, has partnered with Portuguese wet-lease specialist Hi Fly to flight-test a prototype of the multi-finger Trinitair wingtip on an A330-

if an aircraft has to be returned to a lessor in its original condition.

A winglet works by reducing the strength of the wingtip vortex and therefore drag due to lift, or induced drag. But the aerodynamic forces on the winglet can introduce loads into the wing structure, which must be beefed up. This increases the cost and effort required to retrofit winglets to in-service aircraft.

APC expects Trinitair to provide a 2% fuel saving on the A330 within the existing loads envelope of the wing. This is a relatively small benefit but, because the wingtip can be installed quickly and cheaply, the company says the efficiency and sustainability of

ing drag than a conventional winglet because the fingers interact aerodynamically. "The tip vortex from the first interferes with the second and the second with the third," says APC Chief Engineer Carsten Holze. As a result, the vortex geometry differs from that of a classical winglet. "It has a bigger diameter, which changes the pressure distribution on the outer part of the wing," he says.

Additionally, the bending and twisting of the fingers can be adjusted individually to tailor Trinitair to the flexibility of the outer wing and optimize the drag reduction while staying within the certified flight-loads envelope of the wing. This will enable APC to produce a standard wingtip that can be fine-tuned to different aircraft—for example, the 777 has a stiffer wing than the A330.

With a span of 2.6 m (8.5 ft.), Trinitair will attach to the hinge points for the existing A330 winglet, making it a "plug-and-fly" replacement. APC and Hi Fly flight-tested an unmodified A330 to measure bending and twisting of the wing, data that was not available

**APC will test different endcaps for the fingers that could improve the Trinitair wingtip's performance.**

from Airbus. "They never needed it. For them, the generic wingtip is fine," says Zirngibl.

Next, the prototype Trinitair will replace the standard wingtip on one side of the A330, and about 10 hr. of engineering flight tests will be conducted to prove the concept and gather comparative data on loads on each side. APC will then present the data to the European Union Aviation Safety Agency and begin supplemental type certification testing, aiming for approval in 2022.

Once Trinitair is certified, Hi Fly plans to retrofit its A330 fleet, says President and CEO Paulo Mirpuri, adding that a 2% fuel-burn reduction could equate to \$400,000 in cost savings per year. The modification could pay for itself in 1-2 years, Zirngibl says. Mirpuri says Hi Fly hopes to "contaminate in a good way" its customer base of some 140 airlines with the idea of improving the sustainability of their fleets. ☐

200. The project is supported by the Mirpuri Foundation, a Portuguese nonprofit focused on sustainability and founded by the Mirpuri family, which owns Hi Fly.

Unlike the single surface of the A330's standard winglet, or the dual surfaces of the Boeing 737 MAX's advanced winglet, Trinitair has three aerodynamic elements, or fingers. The wingtip is designed to increase the reduction in drag provided by a winglet while avoiding introducing loads into the wing that would require modification of the primary structure.

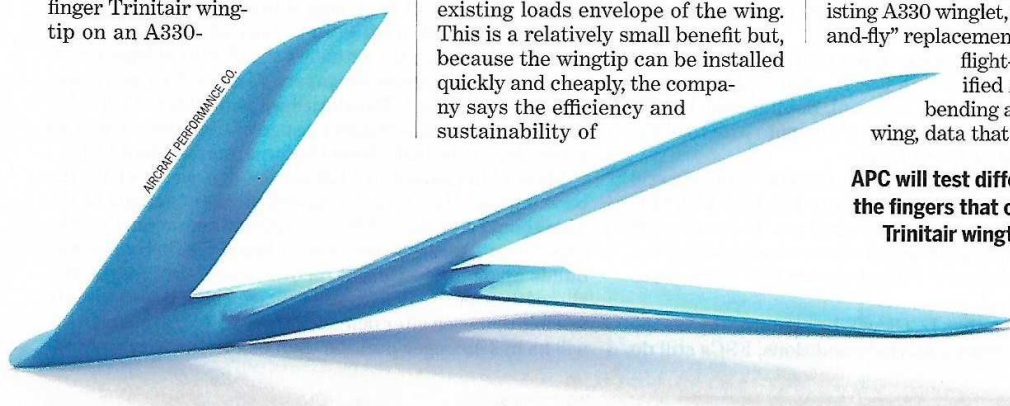
This way, the standard wingtip can be removed and Trinitair installed with less than a day of downtime, says APC. And because the retrofit requires no changes to the wing's structure, Trinitair can be removed and the standard wingtip reinstalled

the in-service fleet can be improved more rapidly.

"Our mission is to get this out there as quickly as possible," says APC Managing Director Harald Zirngibl. "We don't want to stop with this wingtip. We know what we have to do on a Boeing 777. And we have done a lot of work on the A320 because narrowbody long-range aircraft is probably the way the manufacturers will go.

"But the prime target is to do something good for the environment now and quickly," he says. "We want to make valuable in-service aircraft more efficient. Not everyone can afford a new A350 or 787. There are so many aircraft out there that are a number of years old but still well-functioning and well-maintained. Why not make them better?"

Trinitair is more effective at reduc-



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## WHAT'S HAPPENING - AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2021

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August - Fun Fly (No Contest)  
Taibi Flying Field, Perris California

September 4 – 5 Scale Staffel, Flying Aces, Outdoor Contest  
Taibi Flying Field, Perris CA, 7:30 am.  
See enclosed flyer for details.

September 17 -19 Free Flight Championships  
Lost Hills CA  
Events: AMA, FAI, SAM, NFFS Cup Points: NC, AC

September 26 San Diego Orbiteer Outdoor Monthly  
Taibi Flying Field, Perris CA, 8:00 am.  
Events: P-30, Glider, Power