



# IGC 2024 Plenary Meeting

## GNSS Flight Recorder Approvals Committee (GFAC)

Angel Casado, Andrej Fijavž, Miguel Madinabeita, Peter Purdie,  
Klaus Rheinwald, Ian Strachan, Hans Trautenberg, John Wharington

Dickie Feakes, Tim Newport-Peace, Wojciech Scigala,



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# 2024 Report to the Plenary

Dear Delegates

- 1. GFAC Members** At the 2023 Plenary IGC Meeting an appeal was made for delegates to suggest potential new members for GFAC, since a number of the current members were all approaching an age which would cause them to retire. At the 2024 meeting Andrej Fijavž' (Slovenia) inclusion was approved; during 2024, Klaus Rheinwald (Germany) agreed to join as a committee member, and Wojciech Scigala (Poland) as a Technical Adviser. The Plenary is invited to endorse their membership. The current membership is :

## **Members**

Peter **Purdie** (Chairman), UK  
Angel **Casado**, Spain  
Andrej **Fijavž**, Slovenia  
Miguel **Madinabeitia**, Spain  
Klaus **Rheinwald**, Germany  
Hans **Trautenberg**, Germany  
Ian **Strachan**, UK  
John **Wharington**, Australia

## **Technical Adviser**

Dickie **Feakes**, UK  
Tim **Newport-Peace**, UK  
Wojciech **Scigala**, Poland

## **2. Committee operation in the current year.**

The new transferable single contact for the committee [gfac@fai.org](mailto:gfac@fai.org) is in operation. The following areas have been active:

- 2.1 Approvals Although no new recorder types have been approved, two preliminary applications for approval have been received, and significant discussions have taken place with current manufacturers, and with other IGC Committees and Working Groups. Work continues to ensure that new approvals are compatible with our current rules on FRs.

- 2.2 Sporting Code 3 Annex B. An updated Annex B is submitted to the Plenary for approval and publication.

- 2.3 Flight Recorder Specification. Amendment List 9 update of the FR Specification document has been published. This includes revised wording on FR pressure calibration. The document is published at:

[https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/igc\\_specification\\_dec\\_2024\\_with\\_al9.pdf](https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/igc_specification_dec_2024_with_al9.pdf)

and the list of significant changes at

[https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/igc\\_specification\\_al9\\_december\\_2024.pdf](https://www.fai.org/sites/default/files/igc_specification_al9_december_2024.pdf)

- 2.4 ENL – Temporary Approval. A Temporary Approval was issued for an electric self-launching type in an SC3 Annex A Competition for the use of ENL for verification of Means of Propulsion (MoP).

- 2.5 Calibration database. GFAC has also held discussions on defining a Flight Recorder Calibration standard file format, with a view to the implementation of a Calibration file database.

- 2.6 Individual work. The Chairman particularly thanks Wojciech Scigala, assisted by Tim Newport-Peace for his work on software to enable accurate Single Point Correction of FR Pressure measurements, Angel Casado for continuing the maintenance of the GFAC section of the FAI Documents web site, and Howard Mills, Chairman of the SC3D General Section Committee.

- 3. GNSS Flight Recorders.** A total of 62 types of GNSS Flight Recorders (FRs) from 21 different manufacturers are currently IGC-approved. If different models within types are included, the number increases to 79.

Reference: [www.fai.org/igc-documents](http://www.fai.org/igc-documents)

- 4. Pressure Altitude Calibration.** At the 2023 Plenary a proposal from Denmark and France to delete the requirement for periodic Pressure Altitude calibrations was opposed by GFAC and the Sporting Code Section 3D Main Section Committee, and the requirement was retained for Records, Diplomas and Diamond Height, pending further investigation and discussion. GFAC carried out a considerable amount of data analysis, following which a set of procedures and supporting software for an alternative method of producing Pressure Altitude Correction Charts (equivalent to the Calibration Charts already in use) have been developed and incorporated in the Specification Amendment List 9 and the Draft Sporting Code Section 3, Annex B. During the development of these documents the other IGC Technical and Sporting Code committees were consulted and kept informed.

Peter G. H. Purdie

Chairman, IGC GNSS Flight Recorder Approval Committee (GFAC)