

From Turbochargers to Airfoils for Model Gliders

Rolf Girsberger, an outstanding pioneer for RC model gliders has died

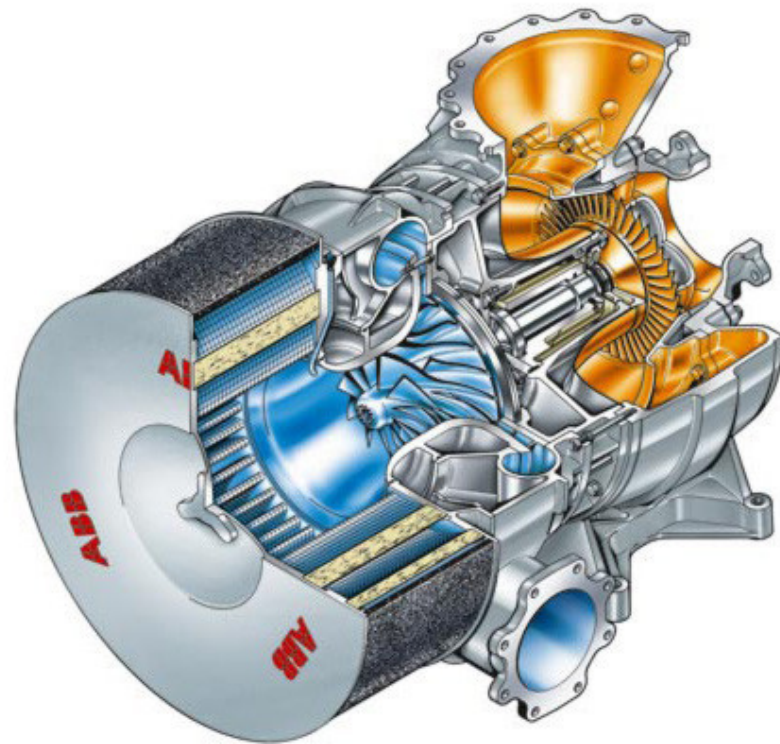
Tomas Bartovsky

Rolf Girsberger was an enthusiastic RC soaring aeromodeller, practicing all kinds of RC soaring.

From 1989 to 1993 he served as Chairman of the CIAM FAI RC Soaring Subcommittee and continued as a member of the Subcommittee until 2009.

In his professional life, he designed blades for turbines and was able to apply his knowledge of aerodynamics to the design of airfoils for gliders. His airfoils were used for many

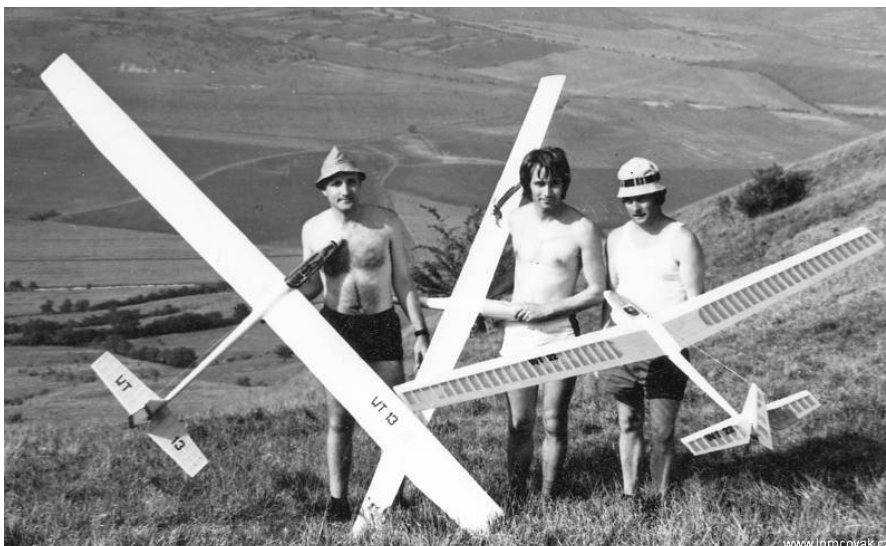
years by glider builders all over the world. His preferred aeromodelling activity was RC slope soaring. In addition to flying in the Swiss Alps, he often spent his summer holidays together with Preben Norholm flying on the slopes in Iceland. With Preben, he also established the regular



Model of a turbocharger



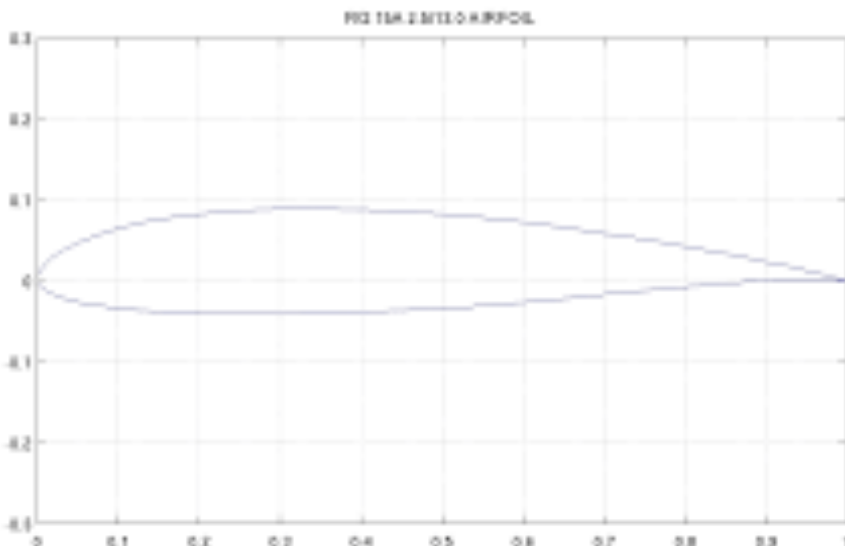
slope soaring competition called Viking Race. Over the years, the Viking Race increased in popularity and developed into an unofficial F3F World Championship.



Since 2012, it has been recognised as an official FAI F3F World Championship.

Rolf Girsberger was an exceptional person, always ready to give advice and help.

Rolf was instrumental in the founding and organisation of the RC model gliding seminars...



Example of an airfoil for RC model gliders

ROLF GIRSBERGER AIRFOILS

Use of the Eppler computer program to design model airfoils is not new, but new and better airfoils are still being developed. Rolf Girsberger of Switzerland was a perennial contributor to ISF and Soartech. He has also used the Eppler program to design a number of airfoils specifically for F3B. The latest developments from Mr. Girsberger include the conversion of his design work into a form that allows modification of thickness and camber, as in more conventional airfoil design methods. (from internet)



Rolf was dedicated to the development of F3B competition models.

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