





A surprising view of a Zoom XA blending perfectly into the takeoff. Zoom is the recent brand managed by **Hannes Papesh and** Alex Höllwarth. Photo: Alex Höllwarth

COVER **FDITO** 2 2 CONTENT COUPE ICARE 2024 6 AD NIVIUK HIKO HARNESSES AND PROTECTIONS 11 AD GIN PROTECTORS: THINGS ARE MOVING 12 14 AD ZOOM XA 16 AD STODEUS 17 U96 AD NIVIUK TAKOO6 18 NIVILIK ARROW P 19 28 REVERSIBLE YES BUT NO 31 AD NIVIUK ARTIK 7 32 AD SKYMAN SHARK 32 ADVANCE BOUNDLESS 33 AD PHI BEAT 2 LIGHT 33 VIDEO: ADVANCE BOUNDLESS 34 AD DUDEK 35 GIN GENIE X-LITE 38 39 AD NEXT GENERATION 42 AD NIVIUK TAKOO 43 WINGI FTS 20 YEARS AFTER: THE BIONIC 45 OZONE MAGNUM 4 46 48 NIVIUK TAKOO 6 NEWS: OZONE ALTA-7 49 50 NEWS: 070NF LYGHT 51 AD SKYMAN SHARK 51 NEWS: ADVANCE SIGMA DLS 52 AIRG DENT DE LION 54 SKYMAN SIR EDMUND SHARK 56 SWING SFRAC RS VIDÉO: THE RAST STORY 60 KITE RISERS: CONTROLLING THE ANGLE OF ATTACK 61 62 FLARE MOUSTACHE 64 VIDÉO: MOUSTACHE PISTE 67 FLARE LINE FLOW MULLET 68 LITTLE CLOUD PUFFIN KITE RISERS 70 71 APCO NESTRA 74 SKY PARAGLIDERS 75 PHI 77 ZOOM 79 AD COUPE ICARE 2024 80 IMPRINT

#### SAINT-HILAIRE, STUBAI, ZILLERTAL: THE CYCLE OF THE SEASONS

Free flight expos have become prime showcases for discovering innovations of both current and upcoming seasons. Despite leaks-whether orchestrated or accidental-shared on social media about the latest designs from manufacturers, these events remain essential for official announcements and the presentation of the latest wings and harnesses.

In September, the Coupe Icare in Saint-Hilaire, taking place this year from September 17th to 22nd is the world's largest gathering of its kind (www.coupeicare.org). Although many new products are revealed here, not all of them are physically displayed. Manufacturers often prefer to fine-tune their models over the winter.

As early as March, in Stubaï, the first models—or at least prototypes—take flight ( www.parafly.at/stubaicup), unveiling the year's innovations. (March 14th -16th, 2025)

Later, during the Pentecost weekend (June 7-9, 2025), the more intimate gathering in Zillertal, Flying High (flying-high.at), offers an opportunity to see these innovations in action, especially those that could not be showcased in Stubaï due to weather conditions.

Some trends and innovations, although not displayed at these expos and test events, still make their way to regular flying sites. Take, for example, the new wave of hybrid wings between kite and paragliding, represented in recent years by models like the Moustache, the Mullet, or the brand-new wings from Little Cloud, which we also discuss in this issue.

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Sascha Burkhardt



The trade fare opens its doors on Thursday.

As always for the last decade, our journalists will be

With 230 exhibitors spread over 5,100 m<sup>2</sup> of covered space, the Icare Show is the must-attend event to discover the latest innovations for the upcoming season.

This year, visitors will have the chance to discover numerous "submarine" style harnesses, some of which are exceptionally lightweight, offered by brands such as Neo and Supair.

Of course, we will be there to present the most promising products, especially for our readers who cannot attend the event. It will also be a great opportunity to meet you in person...

See you soon!

P.S.: New this year, you can now purchase your entry tickets online.

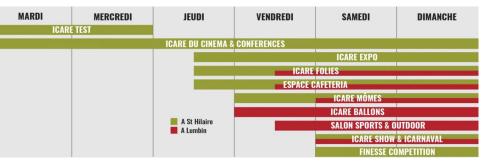
https://coupe-icare.org/





The best costumes of the Icarnaval will be on display on Saturday, weather permitting.









Notably at the south launch site, flights will be available for all pilots during designated time slots, and upon registration.



Horaires d'ouverture des décos du Plateau des Petites Roches								
		D1	D2	D3	D4			
		Déco Nord	Déco Est*	Déco Sud	Dent de Crolles			
Mardi Mercredi	9h-16h	OUVERT						
	Après 16h	OUVERT		OUVERT**	OUVERT			
Jeudi Vendredi	9h-14h	OUVERT						
	14h-16h	OUVERT D1 ou D2*		OUVERT				
	16h-18h30	FERMÉ						
	Après 18h30	OUVERT						
Samedi	9h-18h30	FERMÉ						
	Après 18h30	OUVERT		FERMÉ	OUVERT			
Dimanche	9h-18h30	FERMÉ						
	Après 18h30		OUV	ERT				
* D2 ouvert si D1 fermé - **dernière navette remontée lcareTest : 17h								

Le décollage de La Sapinière est fermé durant toute la manifestation. Les deltistes sont invités à décoller de D3

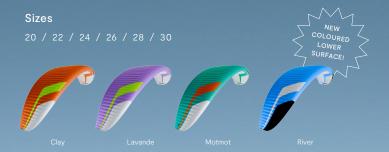
Ces horaires sont indicatifs et modifiables par la direction des vols selon les conditions météo.

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#### Progress with total confidence

The new Hiko is the perfect compromise between passive safety and performance to commence your first long distance flights. It is an intermediate glider (mid EN B), situated between the Hook and Ikuma, expanding our range of paragliders. Its intuitive handling and advanced technologies will allow you to fly with confidence and explore new horizons.



# HIKO P

#### Evolve with *lightness*

From 2.99 kg

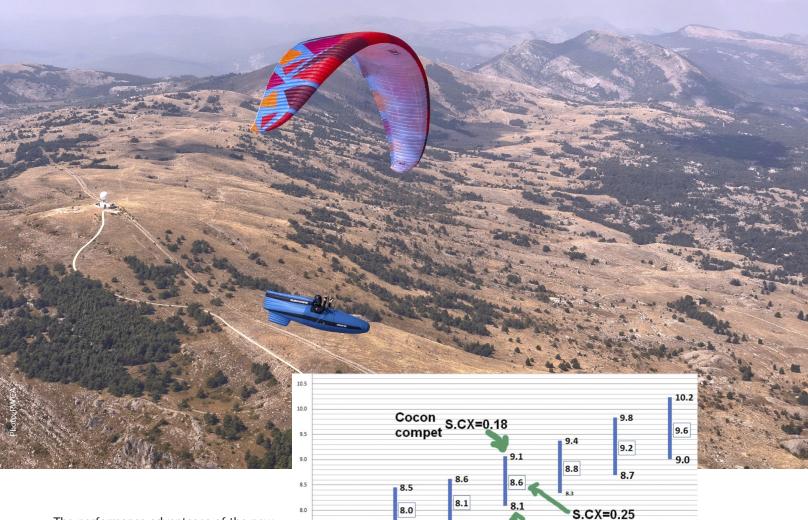
The Hiko P is an intermediate and ultra-light EN B wing an all-rounder for a wide range of pilots. It will accompany you in the transition from paragliding training to your first XC flights. Thanks to the combination of the lightest materials, the IKS 1000 connection system and a weight-optimised internal structure, it is also the ideal glider for hike and fly. It offers great confidence building and excellent performance, to start new adventures and improve your skills.











The performance advantages of the new fully-enclosed harnesses, pioneered by Ozone's Submarine, are undeniable. In the World Cup, they are almost all you see.

7.5

6.5

6.0

7.5

7.1

6.8

Fred Pieri from Ozone calculated that with a Submarine on a Zeno, you gain 1.1 points compared to a "sitting position" harness.

Many other manufacturers have entered this market, including smaller ones like Nearbirds with their ATACMS (shown on the right).



S.CX=0.32

Sellete

assise

jambes

pendantes



It's no surprise that the same types of harnesses are now being offered in ultra-light versions. At the Coupe Icare, they are undoubtedly the focus of attention, such as the Alp by Supair (pictured above) or the Neo Moon Light (right). These paraeses were briefly seen (right). These harnesses were briefly seen during the 2024 X-Pyr.

This seems to be a technology of the future, even for hike & fly, as well as competitions like the X-Alps.

But...





...but there are certain drawbacks, noticed by many competition pilots, and also by Ferdinand Vogel, meet director of the X-Alps.

It starts with the setup: during take off, certain difficulties are clearly noticeable. For example, these long "tails" pose a risk as the pilot could get their feet caught in them. On a snow-covered take off, like in the X-Alps, this is a real danger.

As a result, in the X-Alps 2025, all harnesses of this type will be banned.

The new rule for 2025: "Harnesses must not exceed a length of 70% of the body length in the front and back combined. e.g. 180cm tall athlete: Maximum of 126 cm length in front of the tip of the feet measured at the foremost position of the foot plate in the direction of flight and after the harness measured at the back bottom neck to the rearmost point of the fairing.

It must be possible to get the feet in and out of the harness from the normal flying position within two seconds and without using the hands."

This last point alone excludes many overly complex pod harnesses.

Some issues with these harnesses when airborne may also lead to regulations in classic competitions.

Example: if a pilot stalls to clear a cravat, they could get tangled in the long fairing during the backfly, further losing visibility of the situation. This was confirmed by, among others, former national coach Estéban Bourroufies.

However, this will likely not deter ambitious hike & fly pilots outside of competition from opting for this type of harness, as they are compatible with hikes (due to reduced weight and volume in newer models).

This topic remains relevant, of course, in our magazine as well...





















Koroyd was one of the first protector systems to break away from the typical "foam" vs. "airbag" divide.

Foam is probably the most universal system. Apart from its large packing volume, it has few drawbacks. Airbags, on the other hand, take up little space but are not always functional in the first minutes after take off, especially if they inflate using relative wind through an opening under the harness.

Manufacturers like Woody Valley have started incorporating Nitinol springs, creating an air volume immediately upon take off. Other systems are inflated by mouth before the harness is set up; we've extensively covered this technique in our reviews of the Grasshopper and Sock, for example.

One disadvantage of airbags is the risk of rebound after the first impact. The pilot can also roll laterally more easily than with foam and thus impact on the side.

Koroyd, being lightweight and effective even at low thickness, was considered an almost ideal alternative.

At the editorial office, we had a very positive personal experience with this system, though this remains anecdotal evidence of its effectiveness. The Koroyd deformed as expected (see photo top right); we only had to replace the broken elements. This is one of the principles of Koroyd: its tubes "consume" after an impact.

This is also a point of criticism: in case of a double impact, the protection may no longer be sufficient. However, after the controversy, the DHV conducted a test and confirmed its compliance without reservations.

Another point of criticism: Koroyd would transmit a higher initial G-force spike at the beginning of the shock before it starts absorbing.

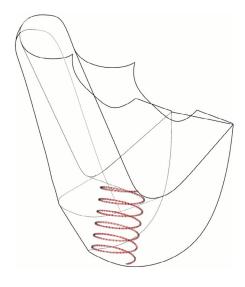
> The system we discovered at the Zillertal trade show, integrated into the Nova Artus harness, resembles the Koroyd system but is made of aluminum alloy! We'll discuss it further soon...



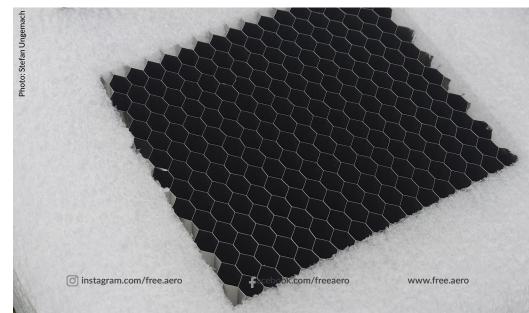
Koroyd damaged: that's the goal.

The Airbag of the Sock (with a faulty element) we have tested.

The spring in the Woody Valley Wani















The Breeze from Skywalk is equipped with Permair inflatable protection. Our review of this very interesting harness will be featured in one of the upcoming issues.





2-LINER EN C

The Genie Race, presented at the 2023 Coupe Icare, is equipped with a Koroyd protector.





BEFORE IMPACT

DURING
FIRST IMPACT

DURING
FIRST IMPACT

DURING
FIRST IMPACT

DURING
FIRST IMPACT

BEFORE IMPACT

DURING
FIRST IMPACT

DURING
FIRST IMPACT

AFTER
FIRST IMPACT

DURING
SECOND IMPACT

AFTER
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SECOND IMPACT

AFTER
SECOND IMPACT

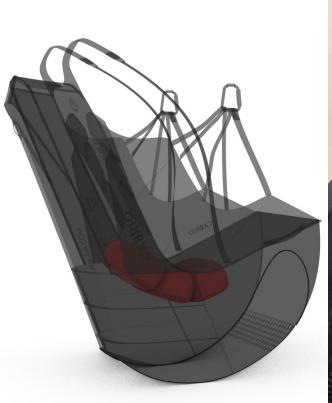
In the meantime, GIN has started producing protectors with "aerobeans": expanded polypropylene balls. These are very light and offer many advantages according to GIN:

- Low weight, comparable to an airbag
- Robustness of foam
- Better absorption in the event of an impact on a sharp rock, thanks to better force distribution (interaction between the balls)
- In case of a rebound, or double impact, the absorption would be as effective during the second as during the first impact.

In its new range of harnesses presented at the Coupe Icare 2024, Phi by Hannes Papesh and its harness designer Yevhenii Zakharchenko combine a spring airbag with an Aérobean-type protection, placed directly under the seat (red part in the image).

Hannes Papesh from Phi: now also offering harnesses with sophisticated protectors.

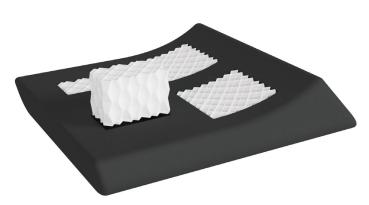




instagram.com/free.aero





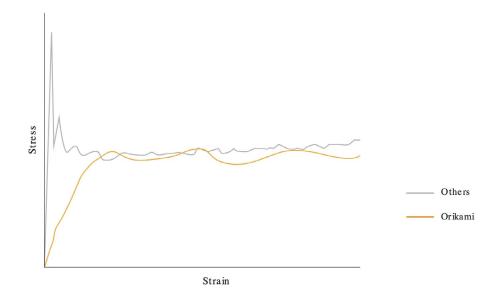






At the beginning of 2024, Niviuk responded to the Koroyd system with the Orikami. At first glance, it resembles the Koroyd, but there are significant differences. This system, for now only available on the Drifter, does not need to be replaced after a crash; the elements return to their original position.

This would also reduce the load spike the pilot experiences at the beginning of the impact compared to other systems.







Stefan Kurrle and Markus Gründhammer presented the U96 harness with inflatable protection in 2023. We are currently testing it (the review will appear in the next issue). It is a very well-designed harness, offering a good balance between semi-light and comfort.





**EN/LTF B** 

## TAKOO 6

Wings for two

The new Takoo 6 dual wing is even easier to use, offering an efficient and enjoyable flying experience. The manoeuvrability and efficiency of the controls have been improved, allowing for smoother, more precise turning than ever before. It is an easy, intuitive and durable glider, making it ideal for endless professional and recreational tandem flying.





Sizes
38 / 41 / 44

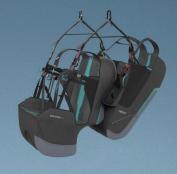
#### SHERLOCK & WATSON 2

A professional partner

Pilot and passenger united by the same passion: flying. Now it's easier than ever with our new tandem harnesses: the Sherlock for the professional pilot and the Watson 2 for the passenger. Ergonomic and very comfortable, they are the perfect solution for both of you to enjoy a magnificent flight. Elementary, my dear pilot!











#### NIVIUK ARROW

This harness, designed for cross-country and hike and fly, is one of the lightest pod harnesses on the market, with a claimed weight of only 1.67 kg for size M.

free.aero was able to test one of the first models shortly after its release in 2023.

Design brief: combine practicality, ease of use, and compactness, while maintaining stability, comfort, remarkable ergonomics.

It is equipped with a foam protector but recently, it has also become available with an inflatable protector (see below).

Our findings, among others: surprising comfort, well-balanced maneuverability, and a sleek, crease-free aesthetic.

On the following pages, we will show you the details...

Well thought out design: the pilot can almost completely "disappear" into the pod. Ideal aerodynamics despite the lightweight construction.

The fairing is quickly inflated, seen here shortly after take off. There is no shoulder adjustment, but interchangeable straps are used.



The Arrow P is equipped with an instrument holder that, unlike the Stay Up 2, for example, is not worn around the neck but integrated into the chest strap. It features a large cockpit and a very accessible pocket, ideal for storing an external battery, for example.



A smooth, crease-free fabric fit...



The Arrow P has rather large pockets, making it a harness that's very well suited for vol biv.



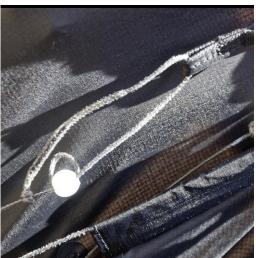


A comfortable and quite sophisticated harness. One might wonder how this harness can remain so light.





The nose of the pod includes a small storage compartment.



The adjustment system is intuitive and easy to use. The white ball holds a lark's foot knot and serves to lock the adjustment in place.



The frame is sophisticated despite its light weight.



The front closure (Lyros Dyneema 4mm) is adjustable thanks to the black ball in the center.



Only one side opens; the pilot must step though the leg loops. Then, you need to pass the orange strap around the safety strap around. This is an essential component. black fsastener.





The shoulder straps are quite rigid, which is helpful when the pilot is putting on the harness.



The elastic part of the pod is made from light Lycra fabric, which is very resistant and durable, especially compared to the ultralight harnesses that were released 4 or 5 years ago.

Bottom right: The D70 fabric used for the pod has a very durable appearance while remaining extremely lightweight.





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The reserve parachute is secured with a lark's foot knot, and the Y-bridle is attached behind the shoulders.



The location of the reserve parachute. Installation is easy and numbered in sequence.



A semi-rigid air intake. The inflation of the fairing is quite rapid after takeoff.



A Velcro strap keeps the reserve parachute deployent handle close to the harness.



Attachment of the riser with a lark's foot knot.



Certified up to 120 daN (approximately 120 kg). Not all lightweight harnesses offer this range.



APAIR PROTECTOR (INFLATABLE)  MANUFACTURER'S SPECIFICATIONS						
INFLATED HEIGHT	14 cm					
COMPRESSED HEIGHT	1.5 cm					
WIDTH	32 cm					
LENGTH	44 cm					
WEIGHT	240 g					
INTERNAL MATERIALS	Plastic					
EXTERNAL MATERIALS	D70					

PROTECTOR (FOAM)
MANUFACTURER'S SPECIFICATIONS INFLATED HEIGHT 14 cm COMPRESSED HEIGHT 10 cm WIDTH 32 cm LENGTH 44 cm WEIGHT 320 g Combination of foams INTERNAL MATERIALS EXTERNAL MATERIALS Dokdo 32g

Initially, during our test, the Arrow P was designed with a 14 cm thick foam protector weighing 320 g.

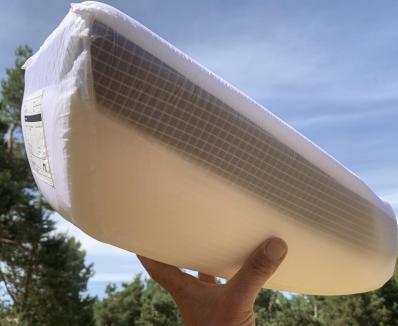
Now, it is possible to order an Apair inflatable protector weighing 240 g, which is a lighter and more compact alternative while maintaining safety.

Niviuk recommends inflating the protector using its storage bag.

As with many harnesses of this type, the protector does not extend up the back.



The protector fitted on our test harness.





In summary, this harness is a great success. Despite its light weight, it provides excellent comfort and maneuverability, offering both stability and responsiveness. This makes it accessible to a wide range of pilots seeking a hike and fly harness.



Meticulous craftsmanship down to the smallest detail.



Vulnerable areas have been reinforced, such as the speed-bar eyelet. Despite its light weight, the harness is equipped with a zip to remove the pod if needed.



Unlike some other harnesses of this type, the pilot retains full head movement during ground handling.



The pod is expandable, so it doesn't drag on the ground during take off. However, it is still relatively easy to get into.

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ARROW P  MANUFACTURER'S SPECIFICATIONS							
MANUFACTURER: NIVIUK Web: https://niviuk.com/en/arrow-p							
RELEASE YEAR	2023	2023	2023				
SIZE	S	М	L				
PILOT SIZE (CM)	160-172	170-182	178-195				
MAXIMUM LOAD	120	120	120				
PROTECTOR CERTIFICATION	EN/LTF	EN/LTF	EN/LTF				
WEIGHT (INFLATABLE PROTECTOR)	1.61	1.63	1.78				
WEIGHT (FOAM PROTECTOR)	1.69	1.71	1.87				



World of XC paragliding







#### REVERSIBLE - YES BUT NO

The Crux from Sky Country, tested in Free Aero in 2017, was already a "reversible" harness where the carrying straps are the same as the harness straps. Since then, other manufacturers have adopted similar systems...

The Crux, tested 7 years ago, remains our favorite harness of this type: extremely simple, light, and compact.

However, the in-flight comfort is obviously that of a very light string harness. Another downside: there is an optional airbag, but it must be detached before packing.





Simple and light: the Crux in our 2017 test. With a few simple steps, it switches from a backpack to a harness. It's even possible to do so while keeping it on your back.



There was also the Scorpio Alpage, as well as the Shorty from Neo, though more complex at first glance. We have tested all of these products.

At Coupe Icare 2024, Neo will present its String Pack 2.0.



The 2017 Crux

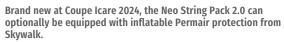
The Shorty from Neo



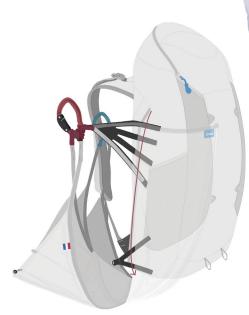




The new String Pack 2.0 from Neo, based on the String 3 and the undeniable experience of the manufacturer (the first String Pack was released 10 years ago...), also allows the thigh loops to be stored on the back without reversing the harness. More details in the next issue.









**EN/LTF C** 

### ARTIK 7 P

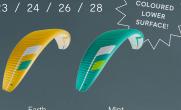
Sporting *performance* 

From 3.07 kg

The Artik 7 P is an enjoyable and ultra-light sports class glider designed for long distance flights, which impresses with its high performance. This hybrid 3/2-liner with a moderate aspect ratio of 6.2, is totally stable, with a passive safety that will surprise you. Thanks to its versatility, you can take off or land anywhere on a mountain. It's the perfect combination of performance and accessibility to satisfy your hike & fly ambitions.



Sizes
20 / 22 / 23 / 24 / 26 / 28





From 1.61 kg

Sizes



The lightest pod harness in its class, with fairing and aerodynamics, designed to obtain the best performance. Practical, easy to use and compact: carry it comfortably on all your adventures. Optimised in every aspect, the Arrow P is very stable and offers exceptional comfort and ergonomics for its weight. The Arrow P joins the new generation of Niviuk harnesses, with the aim of satisfying the needs of all those pilots who want to fly further.







#### ADVANCE BOUNDLESS

In 2023, Advance introduced a truly reversible harness/backpack, featuring a different storage approach...

In the line of the Sky Paragliders Crux or the Neo Shorty, the Advance Boundless stands out with a seatboard, which offers some pilot comfort. The innovation compared to others: a compartment under the seat rather than on the back for stowing the bag in flight mode.

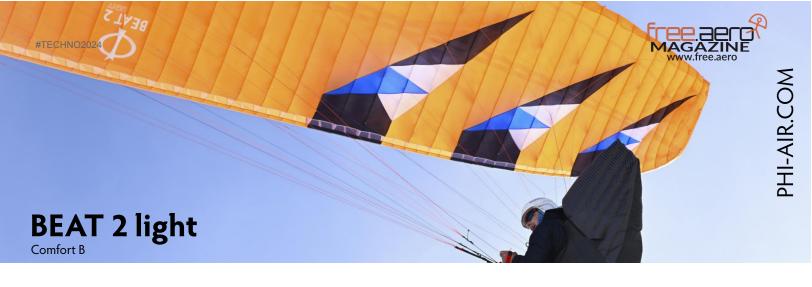
There is also a parachute compartment with a side handle. These features come at the cost of nearly 2.5 kilos more compared to the Neo Shorty (1.55 kg), the Sky Paragliders Crux (1.25 kg), or the new Neo String Pack 2.0 (announced at 870 g - size M without carabiners or back protection), as the Boundless weighs 3.8 kg in size M.

Obviously, these harnesses are not in the same category.





Hike & Fly
thermalling
short cross-country flights







We haven't yet had the chance to test the Boundless, but the video released by Advance shows a simple system with a storage compartment under the seat where the bag easily folds. Despite the moussebag, it would offer a volume of 78/83/90 liters depending on size S/M/L, which is interesting.





### PERFECT HIKE&FLY SET











### GIN GENIE X-LITE

The Gin Genie X-Lite has been on the market for less than two years. It is a fairly lightweight harness (2.99 kg, 3.08 kg, 3.21 kg, 3.48 kg depending on size), compact when packed, but very comfortable.

We were able to test an early version at the beginning of 2023. Since our already very positive test, it has undergone several improvements: easier adjustments, including for the lumbar area, a pee tube exit, ABS, and optimized geometry (better roll stability, better directional stability).

The X-Lite is equipped with a Koroyd protector: the large block under the seat also acts as a seat board and contributes to the comfort and geometry of the harness.

During our tests, we were able to unintentionally verify the effectiveness of this protection...

**Protection Koroyd** 





The materials and craftsmanship of the Genie X-Lite are quite sophisticated and seem durable. The seat is pleasantly deep, compared to a Supair Delight 4 (on the right), for example.









Good maintenance of the aerodynamic shape, and the tail remains well filled thanks to the air intake, which is sufficiently rigid.





A new tandem wing: the Fuse Mini is equipped with the WLE system at the leading edge. Based on the Fuse 4, it has a slight reduction in span in addition to a rippled leading edge. It should be very easy to handle during windy take offs, with very good turbulence damping. It allows light pilots to fly with light adult passengers or children.

Lots of new developments at GIN. Among other things, the WLE system at the leading edge is now available even on a tandem, and the range of harnesses is expanding, especially with a very light pod.

The new Safari 3 tandem harnesses for pilot and passenger offer interesting improvements: in addition to increased comfort for both, the passenger harness benefits from an interchangeable protector. This allows the passenger to land on their buttocks, a practice becoming increasingly common among professionals to protect the legs of less skillful passengers. We will cover this technique in an upcoming issue. The pilot harness is equipped with an Aerobeans protector.







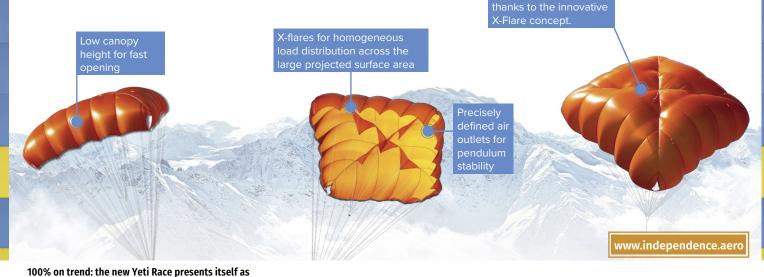


The world's leading rescue systems

#### Quick facts about the NG series:

- · Available in 3 sizes, in both the NG and the NG Light version. Certified according to EN12491
- · New, innovative X-Flare concept for high efficiency
- Excellent sink rates, each just over 5 m/s, equivalent to a jump from a height of about 1.3 m
- · Very reliable opening and extremely good pendulum stability
- · Intelligent, lightweight construction for fast openings, even at low
- Use of high-quality lightweight materials

	Max load (kg)	Surface (m²)	NG weight (kg)	NG light weight (kg)
NG 100 Series	100	25	1.45	1.18
NG 120 Seriea	120	29	1.6	1.3
NG 140 Seriea	140	33	1.85	1.49









**EN/LTF B** 

# TAKOO 6

Wings for two

The new Takoo 6 dual wing is even easier to use, offering an efficient and enjoyable flying experience. The manoeuvrability and efficiency of the controls have been improved, allowing for smoother, more precise turning than ever before. It is an easy, intuitive and durable glider, making it ideal for endless professional and recreational tandem flying.





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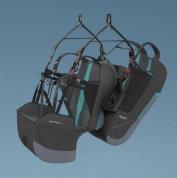
# SHERLOCK & WATSON 2

A professional *partner* 

Pilot and passenger united by the same passion: flying. Now it's easier than ever with our new tandem harnesses: the Sherlock for the professional pilot and the Watson 2 for the passenger. Ergonomic and very comfortable, they are the perfect solution for both of you to enjoy a magnificent flight. Elementary, my dear pilot!











The winglets, small fins located on the upper surface of the paraglider wings, first appeared with the early days of Advance. These structures inflate simultaneously with the paraglider, and their primary presumed advantage at Advance is performance improvement. Like on an airplane, these winglets are believed to reduce induced drag by minimising vortices at the wing tips, thus optimising aerodynamic efficiency.

In high-speed aviation, it is widely recognised that winglets offer undeniable







More recently, Ozone reintroduced winglets, for example on the Photon, but with a different approach. At Ozone, the goal is to allow for a greater wing arc (HiArc) without increasing roll or encouraging an unintended tendency to stay in 360° spirals. Reducing roll is also an important factor for flight comfort, which partly explains the presence of winglets on the new Magnum 4 tandem.

Another interesting point is the position of the winglets on the wing. Unlike the traditional placement at the wing tips, they are positioned closer to the center. According to David Dagault, member of Ozone's R&D team, it would even be possible to add just one large fin on top of the wing for even greater optimisation. However, this choice would not be very aesthetic.

In 2024, other manufacturers are following this trend, such as Air Design with the new Rise 5, presented at the Coupe Icare 2024.







Twenty years ago, the Bionic, designed by Olivier Caldara, featured unusual elements to reduce induced drag: the wing tips were curved upwards. As a result, the center of the wing had to be lowered to stabilize the arc and yaw axis.

During a test conducted by Sascha Burkhardt in 2004, the Bionic was found to be original but had a puzzling turn behavior around the yaw axis. Additionally, the tension forces in the arc didn't seem sufficient to provide good cohesion or deliver performance superior to "normal" wings. The Bionic did not achieve the expected success.

The Magnum 4, which we have on test, here lent to Didier Exiga. More on his valuable opinion, as well as ours, in an upcoming issue!





The winglets on the Magnum 4 stabilise roll for added comfort but do not hinder playful handling in any way.

The use of winglets is not standard at Ozone, as the Swift Six (right) has not been equipped with them.





Talking of tandem wings, here's some surprising news: at the Coupe Icare 2024, Niviuk is already replacing the Takoo 5, despite its undeniable success. More on this in the next issue.



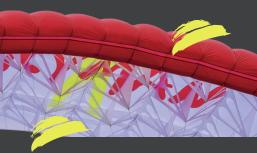
# OZONE ALTA

Ozone say new ALTA offers exceptional passive safety for an EN A wing, a relatively light weight (3.74kg in size S), and performance that "rivals current EN B wings". It features winglets, which we have also seen on the Photon and recently on the Lyght from the same brand, aimed at improving roll stability.









# THE SIR EDMUND SHARK IS SKYMAN'S MOST POWERFUL SINGLE SKIN

hybrid single skin with 20% double surface



#### SIR EDMUND SHARK

most powerful single skin for Hike & Fly

thermalling

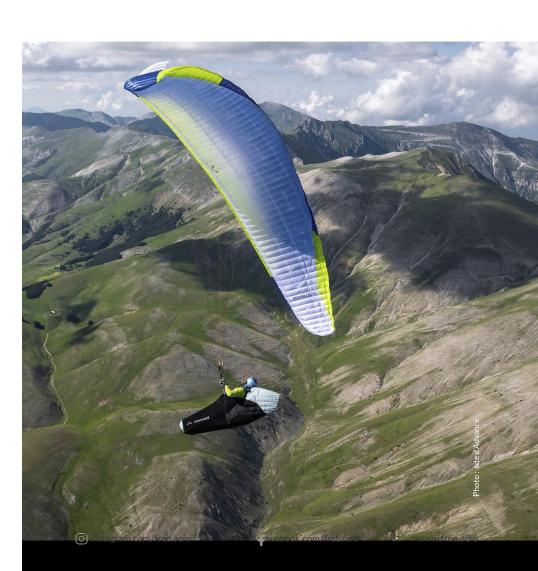
short cross-country flights

www.skyman.aero



# ADVANCE SIGMA DLS

With a spec similar to the Lyght, it is, however, slightly heavier (4.10 kg in size 24). One familiar feature is the winglets on the wingtips, which reduce drag, though they don't serve the same function as with Ozone, where they are used for roll stability.





# AIRG DENT DE LION -HIKE&FLY FREESTYLE&ACRO

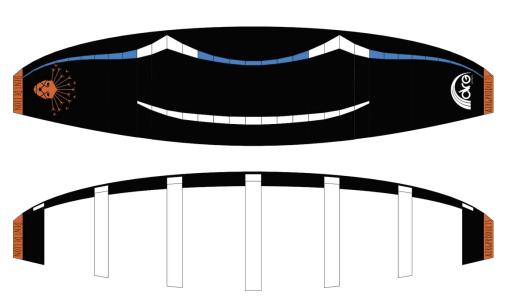
The concept: a robust single-surface for freestyle or acro, also capable of accompanying the pilot on hike & fly adventures.

A very versatile toy then. It was developed by Simon Klemenc and Johannes Glatz, who took over AirG in 2017 from its founder, Richard Gallon.

The result is a 17 m<sup>2</sup> single-surface wing, weighing 2 kg, with Skytex32 used across the entire upper surface and ribs.

A single-surface wing is not as fast as a double-surface wing, but the small 17 m<sup>2</sup> area and the presence of (short) trimmers compensate for this lack of speed.

Admittedly, using a single-surface for freestyle, or even acro, might seem surprising, but it clearly works perfectly. In Organya, where much of the development took place, Dent de Lions are regularly seen performing Misty Flips, helicopters,



The new color design "Black 2024"



SATs, and other maneuvers. Some pilots even enjoy taking off in backfly. When you see acro specialists playing with it, you really get the impression that this is a universal toy.

And relatively safe: the wing has no certification other than load testing, but its behavior seems quite stable, in line with the characteristics of single-saurface wings. It's worth remembering that single-surface wings can be a bit more reactive above your head, as they move slightly with even the smallest turbulence, but this movement remains limited thanks to their low inertia.

This is not just due to the reduced weight of the single-surface, but also because there is little to no trapped air inside cells. While the air inside a conventional wing doesn't "weigh" anything in normal flight, it does contribute to the wing's dynamic movements. This is why a single-surface wing rarely shoots forward dramatically, as there's little mass in motion. As a result, the wing exhibits a generally dampened behavior (with some exceptions).

The Dent de Lion seems to bring this single-surface spirit into a wing perfectly suited for ground play, waggas, and apparently acro too, despite the lack of inertia for some maneuvers. It is also possible, to some extent, to catch thermals.

We will be testing this wing in more detail and will report back here...





Simon Klemenc from AirG. At Saint-Hilaire, the company will exhibit in the outdoor area.





# SKYMAN SIR EDMUND

Markus Gründhammer and Skyman have always been pioneers in single-surface sector. The Sir Edmund is now in its third generation, and it has a younger sibling: the Sir Edmund Shark.

The notable difference: the Shark is equipped with a cross cell in the leading edge, which is fed by a very pronounced Shark Nose opening, hence the name. This technology is clearly visible in the image on the right.

The stabilo is also filled by the leading edge and is quite voluminous. The purpose of this construction is to create strong lateral force to better tension the wing along the span. This is particularly necessary due to the aspect ratio of 5.7, which is significantly higher than that of the Sir Edmund 3 (5.24).

The more complex construction slightly increases the weight of the Shark (1.9 kg -2.5 kg depending on the size), but the low volume and ease of packing remain impressive.

Comparison: Sir Edmund Shark, Sir Edmund 3





Markus Gründhammer, fonunder of Skyman and single-surface specialist, flying the Shark 20.

The Shark defines itself as a single-surface wing that is very close to a double-surface, perfectly suited for hike & fly, and also capable of thermal flying and small cross-country flights.

Indeed, the launch is typical of a good single-surface wing: it practically rises by itself, with or without using the A-lines. In strong wind, its eagerness to climb and fly might even take you by surprise. The lift is good.

In the air, in the size 17 that we tested, it is, like all single surface wings, a bit lively, but also very efficient. It's a single-surface wing that is indeed very close to a double-surface glider, with a slight difference in speed and glide.

It allows you to core thermals very effectively. It's amazing what it can offer. For mixed hike & fly and small cross-country use, it's a great compromise. Moreover, it is quite reassuring with its EN B certification.

During landing, the brakes also act on the rear lines after a certain point, which efficiently facilitates flare, a critical point for single-surface wings.

We will continue our testing and refine our impressions, which are very positive so far...



Practical details: Hooks to hold the leading edge in place on a steep slope, and fasteners for the risers during packing.





# THE SWING SERAC RS

Swing's lightweight EN B tolerates low speeds well during take-off landings, thanks in particular to RAST technology.

or years now, an interesting technology has been spreading across models from various brands, particularly at Swing, where it was invented. Swing's Serac RS is an accessible, lightweight EN B wing that benefits from the advantages of RAST technology. It offers pleasant and intuitive handling both in the air and during takeoff. During takeoff, you'll notice the typical, steady inflation, with a slight initial delay inherent to the RAST system, making it easier and more predictable. This inflation behavior can even be useful in tailwind conditions, as it avoids the typical "shoot." Good responsiveness and the ability to turn flat allow for simple and precise thermal flying, with a firmer feel compared to earlier models equipped with RAST. During transitions, it's noticeable that the C-risers are quite high, requiring extra effort to control, which can lead to fatigue after a few minutes—a drawback in these times of rear-riser control.



On take-off, the lines don't seem to have any tendency to get tangled, and the control input at the rear works better than in the air.



The rushes are exposed on this type of sail, so you have to be careful not to drag it too much.







ne of the great advantages of the Serac is its use of the RAST technology developed by Swing. This partition helps to maintain control during collapses or even delay stalls. We talked about it in more detail in the Icare 2018 issue of Voler.info. On the Serac as well, this technology provides a sense of security: a forgiving mid-EN B wing suitable for a wide range of pilots. Despite the technology and the more complex construction compared to a conventional wing, it remains relatively lightweight at 3.6 kg in size...



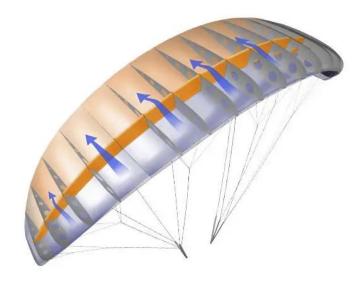


Diagram of RAStT technology borrowed from the SWING website. https://www.swing.de/rast/?lang=en



#### WING SERA

Web: https://www.swing.de/produkte/serac-rs/?lang=en

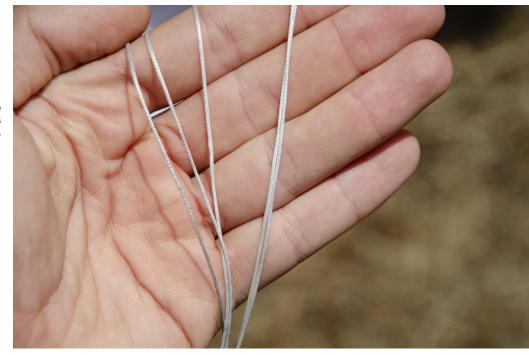
DATE	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022
SIZE	XS	S	SM	ML	L
CELLS	42	42	42	42	42
FLAT SURFACE AREA [M²]	20,1	22,3	24,6	27	29
FLAT WINGSPAN [M]	10,3	10,8	11,4	11,9	12,4
FLAT ASPECT RATIO	5,3	5,3	5,3	5,3	5,3
ALL UP WEIGHT [KG]	60-72	70-85	75-95	85-105	95-115
FREE FLIGHT CERTIFICATION	В	В	В	А	А
WEIGHT OF THE WING [KG]	3,0	3,3	3,6	3,8	4,0
WEIGHT RANGE EXTENDED	65-90	70-90	75-100	85-110	95-119

instagram.com/free.aero

All lines are coated at the base.



Only the brake halyard branches are not.

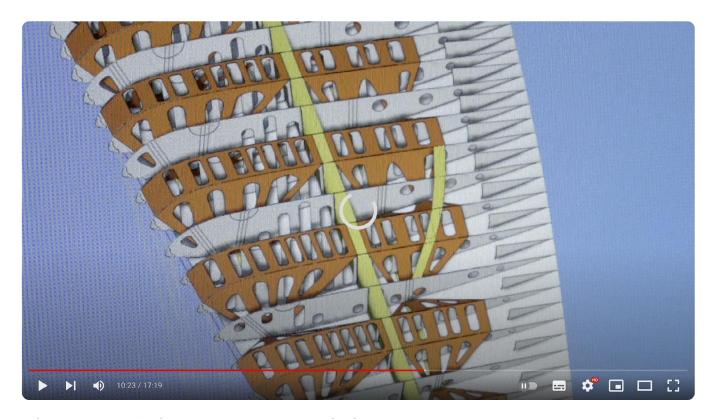


The fabric feels hard-wearing and avoids the "p-bag" effect.





## THE RAST STORY



Swing presents the story of their RAST technology through several testimonials.





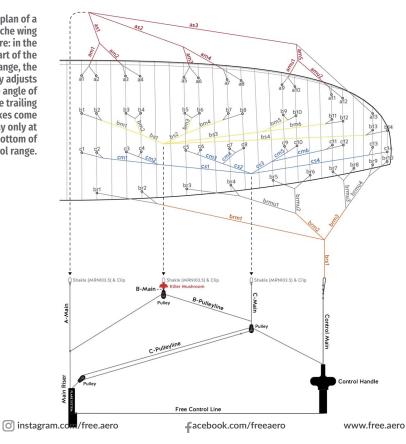
## CONTROLLING THE ANGLE OF ATTACK

For over two years, Kite Risers technology-risers that allow for direct adjustment of the wing's trim, similar to kitesurfing sails—has been disrupting the soaring wing market. This revolutionary change was initiated by Flare with the launch of the Moustache, the first production wing equipped with this type of riser system.

Flare is part of the same group as kitesurf manufacturer Flysurfer and paragliding brand Skywalk. In fact, it was the synergy between these sports that led to the development of the first Moustache model.

Armin Harich, an accomplished paraglider pilot and head of Flysurfer, applied the typical kite control technique-where the trim is adjusted evenly—to paragliders like the Moustache. This wing allows for a significant variation in the angle of attack, and with its pronounced reflex profile (similar to paramotors), it offers great stability against collapses. These profiles are also known as "auto-stable." The more the angle of attack decreases (shooting forward), the more the profile resists and tries to stabilise itself.

The line plan of a Moustache wing from Flare: in the upper part of the control range, the pilot only adjusts the angle of attack. The trailing edge brakes come into play only at the very bottom of the control range.



A Moustache glides along the coastline. The control system that adjusts the angle of attack is clearly visible.

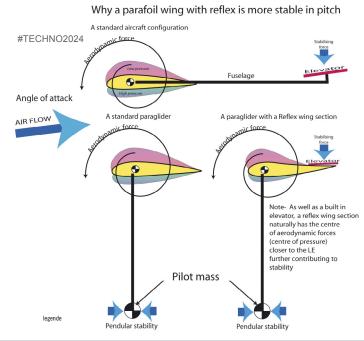


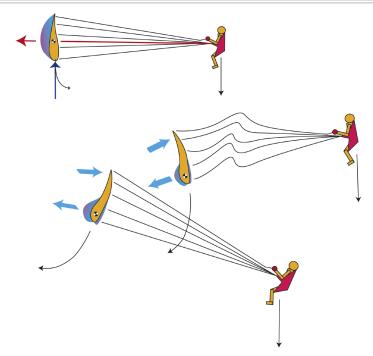
The climb maneuvers offer a completely new way to play.

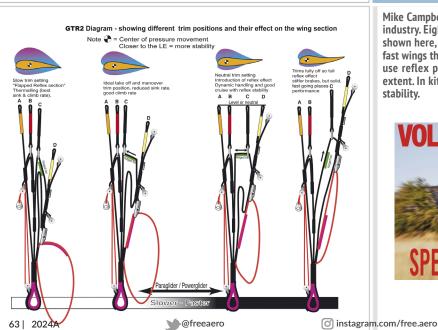


One might think that Jean-Baptiste Chandelier was involved in this development. However, that's not the case; he took possession of the ready-made toys upon joining Skywalk.











Mike Campbell-Jones from Paramania is the pioneer of the reflex profile in the paramotor industry. Eighteen years ago, he launched the first full reflex models. With the diagrams shown here, he was already explaining the benefits of this technology at the time: very fast wings that are nearly impossible to collapse. Today, all paramotor wing manufacturers use reflex profiles, and in paragliding, these profiles are also being adapted to some extent. In kite riser wings, reflex profiles offer a highly effective source of anti-collapse stability.

You can find more information in our 2014 issue (unfortunately French only).





However, stability has its limits: as with reflex paramotors, you have to be wary of a collapse that exceeds even reflex stability. In these cases, the reaction can be very violent. This is another reason why these wings are primarily sold for laminar soaring, although it is also possible for very experienced pilots to do small triangles with them...

Since these wings are designed for low-altitude flights, there is another aspect that requires learning: with released brakes these wings are like "fully accelerated." However, few pilots fly close to the ground with traditional wings at full speed.

Even though the reflex profile of these wings provides additional protection against collapses, they may occur, and speed-range is between 50-70 km/h.

Another characteristic of this practice: like with kites, many pilots have two or even three wings to adapt to wind strengths and push the acceptable wind limits beyond 45 km/h... Smaller sizes also make excellent wings for speedriding.

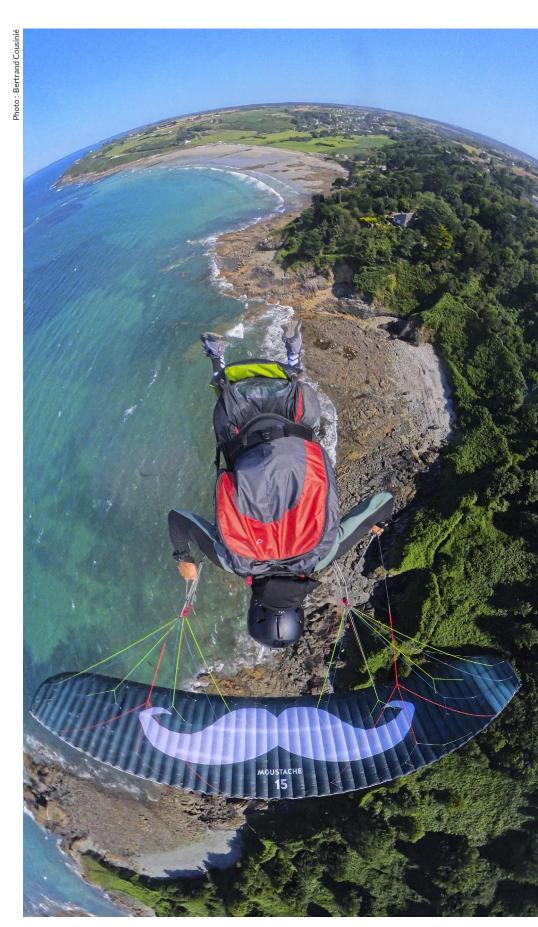


The wide range of possible angles of attack makes it easier to follow the terrain in proximity flying, as demonstrated here with a small size wing along the trails, in this beautiful demonstration by Ben Kälin, a collaborator of Flare and owner of https://speedflyingschool.com/.





In a barrel roll, often executed in speed flying with a small kite riser wing, the pilot nearly passes above the wing on an oblique trajectory.





The Moustache was indeed the first production wing of this type, although other designers, including Hannes Papesh, have worked on the principle.

Furthermore, while the world of paragliding has recently adopted kite techniques, kites have also learned a lot from paraglider.

## FLARE MOUSTACHE

MOUSTACHE MANUFACTURER'S DATA  MANUFACTURER: FLARE							
YEAR OF RELEASE							
SIZE	13	15	18	22	26		
CELLS	52	52	52	52	52		
FLAT SURFACE AREA [M <sup>2</sup> ]	13	15	18	22	26		
FLAT SPAN [M]	8.40	9.10	10.00	11.30	12.49		
FLAT ASPECT RATIO	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.8	6.0		
MTOW [KG]							
CERTIFICATION							
WING WEIGHT [KG]	3.1	3.4	3.8	4.4	5.0		



The Line is a derivative of the Moustache, more focused on speedriding. The control of the angle of attack could significantly disrupt the world of speedriding, thanks to the increased range of attack angles, controlled by the brakes!

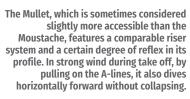
## FLARE LINE

LINE MANUFACTURER'S DATA							
MANUFACTURER : <b>FLARE</b> Web : https://go-flare.com/LINE/GFPLI11100//							
YEAR OF RELEASE							
SIZE	8	9	10	11	13	15	
CELLS	33	33	33	33	33	33	
FLAT SURFACE AREA [M²]	8	9	10	11	13	15	
FLAT SPAN [M]	5.7	6.0	6,3	6.7	7.3	8.1	
FLAT ASPECT RATIO	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.,1	4.2	4.4	
MTOW [KG]							
CERTIFICATION							
WING WEIGHT [KG]	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.6	2.9	





<b>MULLET</b> MANUFACTURER'S DATA								
MANUFACTURER: FLOW PARAGLIDERS  Web: https://www.flowparagliders.com.au/mullet//								
SIZE 13 15 17 18 20 23								
CELLS 54 61 61 61 61 61								
FLAT SURFACE AREA [M²]         13         15         17         18         20         23								
FLAT SPAN [M]	8.45	9.12	9.80	108	10.9	11.70		
FLAT ASPECT RATIO 5.5 5.6 5.65 5.65 6.0 6.0								
WING WEIGHT [KG] 3.00 3.30 3.70 3.80 4.20 4.50								





Excellent craftsmanship on this Mullet that we had the opportunity to test...

"Full attack with arms high": a recurring state under these wings...









We equipped a Puffin 16, after testing it with traditional risers, with kite risers. The result is interesting, expanding the possibilities.

Kite risers can be adapted to many Little Cloud wings, here on a SuperFly 19.5. The SuperFly is an intermediate wing with the specifications: "small, lightweight, very safe, and good performance for reaching the landing (on sites requiring finesse)."

The manufacturer Little Cloud is known for its mini-wings and "super-soaring" wings. Even with traditional risers, these wings are inherently well-suited for low-altitude flying in laminar wind, while also allowing for thermal flights.

Lacking a pronounced reflex profile, their adaptation to kite risers may seem less obvious. However, designer Tom Bourdeau supports the choice, while acknowledging:

"The advantage of a reflex profile is that you can use these wings with a lower AOA (angle of attack), allowing you to fly faster than with a traditional profile.

But the reflex effect is not a binary characteristic; it is an intrinsic feature of the aerodynamic profile dependent on many factors in its design (shape/upper surface/lower surface/camber/moment, etc.).

Under no circumstances are these profiles 100% collapse-proof. They will all collapse at some point, often without warning, usually at a low AOA, and with rather poor recovery behavior most of the time.

### LITTLE CLOUD PUFFIN KITE RISERS

The stronger the reflex effect, the worse the efficiency and performance (and handling) will be!"

Indeed, at voler.info, we have tested numerous paramotor wings with reflex profiles, both with and without motors, and can confirm this observation. We also recall the so-called "infallible" reflex wings and their brutal behavior when they do collapse...

A Puffin will collapse a bit faster, but one can expect its behavior to be "just" like that of a classic mini-wing.

In any case, considering these remarks, and especially when only soaring in laminar conditions, the pilot can enjoy this type of wing with peace of mind.





## APCO NESTRA LIGHT

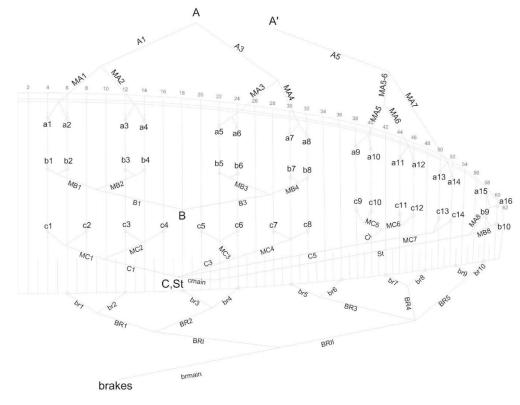
The Nestra Light is probably not particularly suited for hike & fly, as it still weighs 4.55 kg in size M, which places it in the "semi-light" category. For a wing positioned at the high end of the EN B class, its aspect ratio of 6.0 is quite significant. The Apco Nestra gives off an EN C vibe, also thanks to its shape and very optimised line layout.

And indeed, the wing, with its 61 cells and long lines, offers performance reminiscent of a higher category. Highly responsive to the brakes, it is particularly effective in thermals – and quite "fun" to fly as well.

This proximity to EN C wings makes this "high-end EN B" a good alternative for many pilots who are stepping down from that class, seeking a more reassuring behaviour.

Of course, for pilots coming from an EN A, it is much too nervous.

The Apco Nestra is described as "a true two-and-a-half-liner," because the rear lines are all anchored on a single line rather than branching off. Additionally, this design further reduces the total line length (215 m for size M).







The wing delivers performance that truly places it at the top of its classification, with only the top speed likely differentiating it from a higher category wing.

As soon as there's a minimum amount of wind, the high aspect ratio doesn't hinder take off at all; the Nestra shows that it can be easily controlled asymmetrically or using the cobra technique.







The Nestra is both performant and playful. Its construction is quite sophisticated.

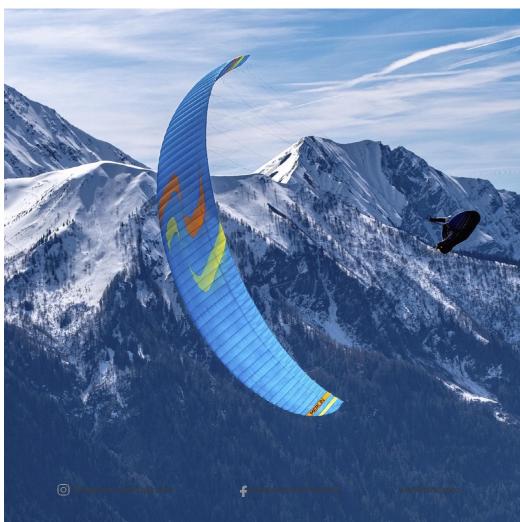




# SKY PARAGLIDERS

Sky will be at the Coupe Icare with its EN C 2-liner Merlin (which we have already presented, photo on the right), as well as with the new version 3 of the Apollo (EN B, photo above).

Both designers, Alexandre Paux and Stanislav Klikar, will be present.





The Beat 2 light

PHT

At the Coupe Icare, Phi will officially present the Beat 2 light in all sizes, as previously announced in Kössen.

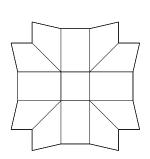
A new rescue system will be announced: its key feature, among others, is that the lines will not be sewn onto the underside of the rescue canopy but will run through the fabric, then on the outside to the edges, ensuring better load distribution and consequently greater strength. This rescue system could become the lightest on the market.

#### **Overview Wings**



Phi's product range is becoming increasingly wide.

The new Pop rescue system, a square parachute, is highly simplified yet still effective. According to Phi, it could become the lightest rescue system on the market.



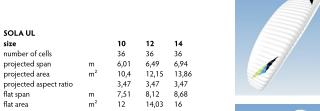


A new weight record is also on the horizon: the new Sola UL, fully certified (EN D), not just loadtested, despite its tiny sizes (10, 12, 14), will weigh only 1.39, 1.56, or 1.72 kg.

The new Rondo tandem will be a highperformance dual wing, certified EN B, but with very high speed (not specified), thanks to 15 cm

The new Cabrio harness will be very versatile, able to be used with or without a seatboard, and will feature "2-phase" protectors: a combination of an inflatable protector (Nitinol, gray) and Magic Beans (foam balls, red).

More information on this in the next issue!



16



nat area			1 1,00	10	
flat aspect ratio		4,7	4,7	4,7	
line length	m	4,59	4,96	5,3	
maximum chord	m	1,99	2,15	2,29	
minimum chord	m	0,49	0,53	0,56	
weight	kg	1,39	1,56	1,72	
certified weight range	kg	55-90	55-105	55-115	
certification (EN/LTF)		D	D	D	
material		Dokdo	D10 / Sky	tex 27	
risers		R13 (3)			
riser length	mm	500	500	500	
speedway	mm	150	150	150	

size

RONDO				
size		190	210	230
number of cells		58	58	58
projected span	m	11,12	11,66	12,03
projected area	m <sup>2</sup>	29,97	32,97	35,05
projected aspect ratio		4,13	4,13	4,13
flat span	m	14,18	14,87	15,33
flat area	m <sup>2</sup>	35,38	38,92	41,37
flat aspect ratio		5,68	5,68	5,68
line length	m	8,45	8,86	9,14
maximum chord	m	3,04	3,19	3,29
minimum chord	m	0,75	0,81	0,81
weight	kg	6,2	6,6	7,0
certified weight range	kg	100-200	110-220	120-240
certification (EN/LTF)		В	В	В
material		Porcher	38, 27	
risers		RZ13 (3	+1)	
riser length	mm	347	347	347
trim travel	mm	150	150	150







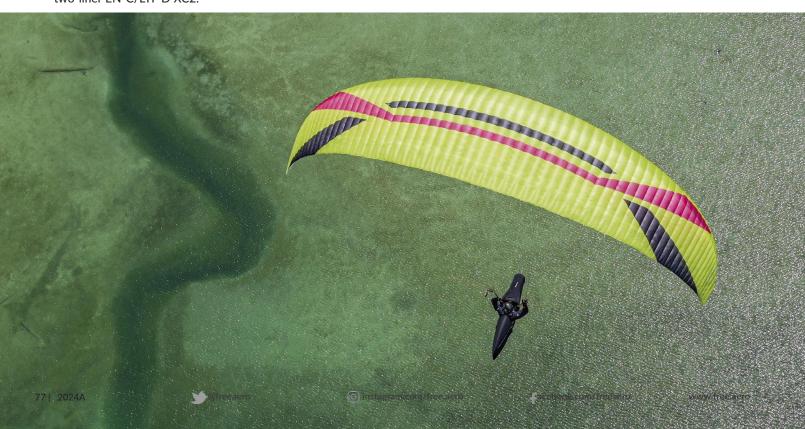




# 200M

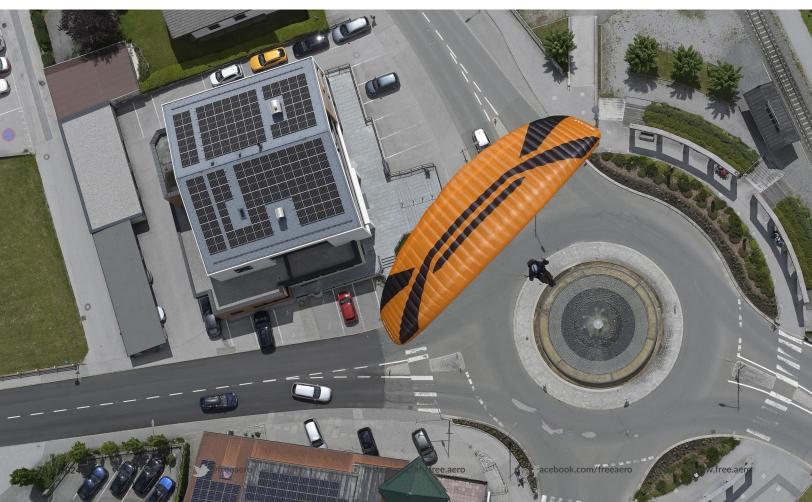
Thanks to many sophisticated elements in the construction of the XA (EN A), it could accompany the pilot during training and for a long time afterward.

Finally, here is the light version "LT" of the two-liner EN-C/LTF D XC2.





The Zoom XC2 in its classic version. Below: the XA from our cover...



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> > Show aérien 21 et 22 septembre www.coupe-icare.org



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