

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS

NEW EPPLER 230 DATA

An important item mentioned by Dr. Walter Panknin in his MARCS Symposium presentation dealt with the Eppler 230 airfoil. Frequently used on swept 'wings as the tip airfoil, it is a reflexed section which many builders have relied on to provide stability without requiring large amounts of twist. Walter's experience and research, however, showed the Eppler 230 may not be capable of a large stabilizing effect after all, and the actual pitching moment is roughly half of the published value: +0.025. This is of great importance to those who are designing and constructing swept 'wings, and individuals with computer programs using E 230 data files should update their information to reflect this more accurate value.

NEW AIRFOILS

In an effort to extract increases in performance from tailless sailplanes, the Swiss Logo Team has been experimenting with some new airfoils. We have now used one of these new airfoils and can report excellent performance along with good stability. The sections have very low positive pitching moments and are well suited to foam/fiberglass/vacuum bag construction. We'll publish a full report, complete with coordinates, soon!

THE ICAROSAUR FLYING WING

In a recent telephone conversation with Gene Dees, he reports having sold the rights to the Icarosaur to a manufacturer of RPVs (Remotely Piloted Vehicles... That's military talk for RC reconnaissance aircraft), effectively eliminating any possibility of full sized plans being available. Gene is, however, working on an article for Flying Models magazine which will describe the Icarosaur in such detail anyone interested in constructing one can do so. Watch for it!

Herk Stokely, soaring columnist for Flying Models, has been featuring tailless aircraft in the last few issues!

TAILLESS BIBLIOGRAPHY AVAILABLE

We recently acquired a very well written "Tailless Bibliography" authored by Serge Krauss. Although dealing primarily with full sized aircraft, the bibliography has many references of use to modelers. Citation dates range from well before 1900 to the present. We thoroughly enjoyed Serge's comments in the introduction regarding various tailless designs and their designers! Although complete as it stands, Serge has plans to continue expanding the work and is looking for contributions. Copies may be obtained directly from Serge Krauss.

PROJECT PENUMBRA

Our own long term project, an F3B/Thermal Duration swept 'wing, has undergone considerable progress lately. After nearly five years of sketches, improvements, and procrastination we can at last report a qualified success! We'd delayed construction because it seemed we always acquired a piece of information which changed a major component each time we were ready to start. We finally decided to start constructing something, as otherwise we would never get anything into the air. We are convinced the resulting aerodynamic design is fairly optimized, but structurally we still have a way to go. Watch for updates!

