

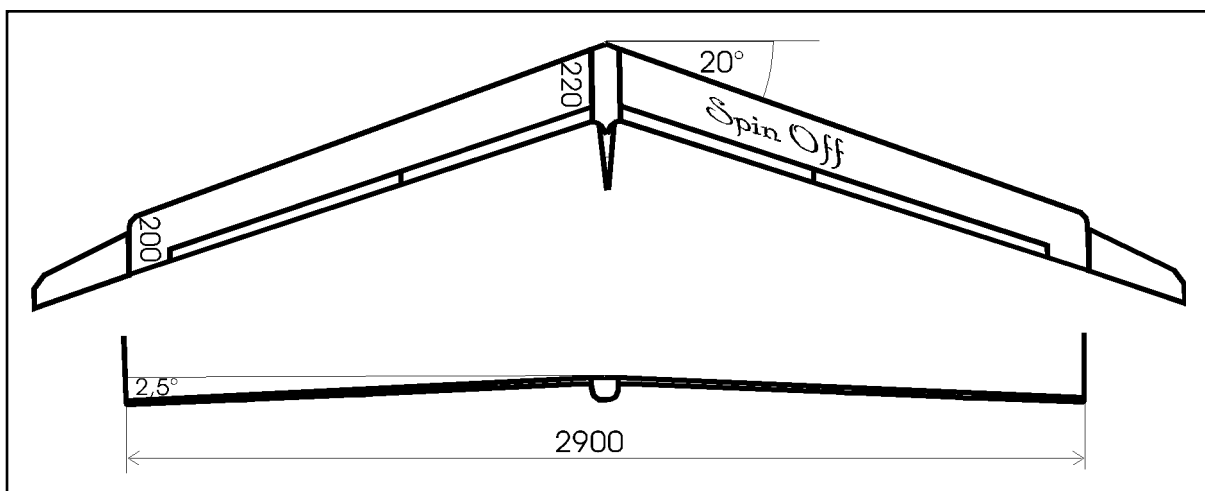
Christian Behrens & Christian Tollmien's "Spin Off"

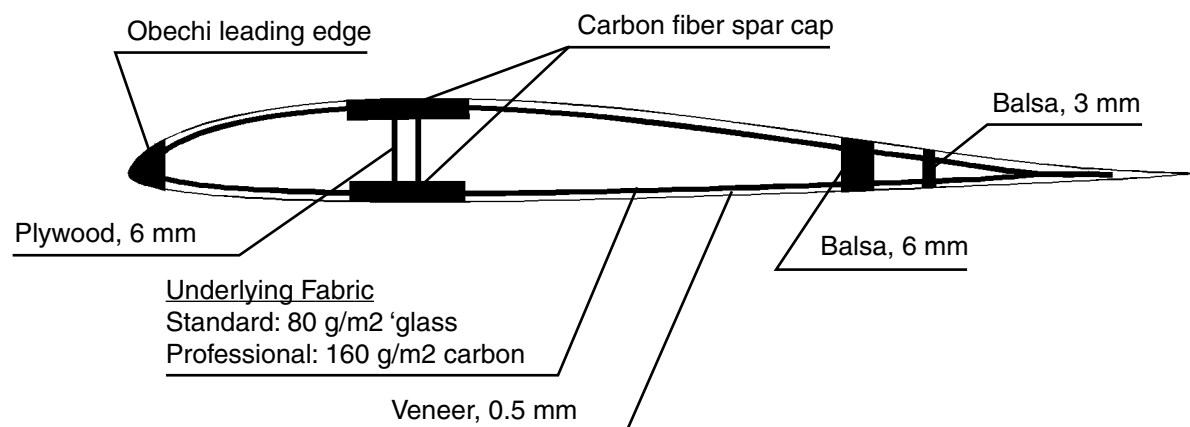
This month we take a look at another highly competitive tailless model from Germany, with thanks again to Andrew MacDonald of Australia for providing the information.

"Spin Off" is the creation of Christian Behrens and Christian Tollmien, and has so far gone through four iterations. The most successful version was the second, and it is the one described here. The number three version was the worst of the series, which just goes to show that subsequent modifications do not always yeild improvement!

Although "Spin Off" was inspired by Hans-Jürgen Unverferth's Joined series, comparing the Spin Off with Hans-Jürgen Unverferth's CO⁷ yeilds some very interesting information. This is particularly enlightening as the CO⁷ and the "Spin Off" are the best performing tailless saiplanes in Germany at this time. For those who think the sections used on tailless models cannot produce much lift, the two Christians say this model can break the winch line.

Behrens and Tollmien are very sure of the thermal potential of this model, and say they will have no problems with the extended thermal duration task coming for F3B. Christian Behrens admitted their lack of experience has prevented them from doing better in F3B as they haven't enough practice in tuning their models for different conditions, and lack of identical mold-built prototypes makes them cautious against trying radical techniques for





launching and otherwise improving contest performance. But he is pretty confident that if anyone turned up with a “Spin Off” against average pilots they have a good chance of placing well.

Both Christians are in the C-Kader F3B division this year and in the German National Championships for F3J. Christian Tollmien came in the top 26 out of over 130 entrants. He also said that the number of people flying tailless competitions has dwindled and he attributes this to the fact that no one can compete with them or Hans-Jürgen. If someone turns up at a tailless competition with a new glider, and they suddenly find themselves at a 50 meter height disadvantage to a “Spin Off” or a 70 meter disadvantage to a CO⁷, they tend to be discouraged. Christian and Christian fly with Hans-Jürgen, and while they help each other they are fairly competitive as well.



"Spin Off" is available from Christian Behrens. He is selling two different versions. The general sport model (Standard) uses 'glass, while carbon is used for the competition model (Professional). Prices are around 600 DM for the 'glass version, 1000 DM for the carbon version. Shipping is not included in these prices.

| "Spin Off" dimensions | |
|--|---|
| Wing span | 2.9 meters |
| Wing area | 60.9 dm ² |
| Aspect ratio | 13.9 |
| Weight, Standard Professional | 1900 g 2100 - 3000 g |
| Wing loading, Standard Professional | 31 g/dm ² 33 - 50 g/dm ² |
| Design C _L (neutral trim) | 0.3 |
| Profile | S 5010 |
| Dihedral | -2.5 degrees |

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