



1972 - 2022

50 years of Gliding in the Dutch Flevopolder

Gliding at 4 meters below Sea Level



From Rhönlerche to Duo Discus

Martin W Smit

September 2, 1972

A small group of enthusiastic glider pilot has gathered early in the morning on a grass strip in the Dutch Flevopolder, a few kilometers from Lelystad.

Fortunately, there is no rain and there is a light northeasterly wind. It's partly cloudy and the rising sun has already burnt off the morning mist.

The rented Rhönlerche is at the temporary launch point. On the other side of the field, the also rented "Hansa" winch can be seen.

A launch bus is not yet there and the signals to the winch are done with the "plak", a red white blocked long stick with at the end an orange painted traffic sign.

The flight instructor Henk Widman gives a short briefing to those present. The winch operator, Jaap Reinsma, is brought to the winch. Henk steps into the Rhön.

The cable is attached to the Rhön. Henk gives the thumbs up signal. The signaller raises the "plak". The winch slowly takes the slack out of the cable. Then the signaller makes the all out signal.

Suddenly it goes fast, the Rhön rolls forward faster and faster and is airborne in just a few meters. The first glider start in the Flevopolder is a fact.

We are now fifty years after the event. From that one start, Flying Club Flevo emerged that developed, after a few years, into Gliding Club Flevo.



PH-238



Ka 4 Rhönlerche II

1973 - 1976

PH-454



ASK-13

1973 - 2013

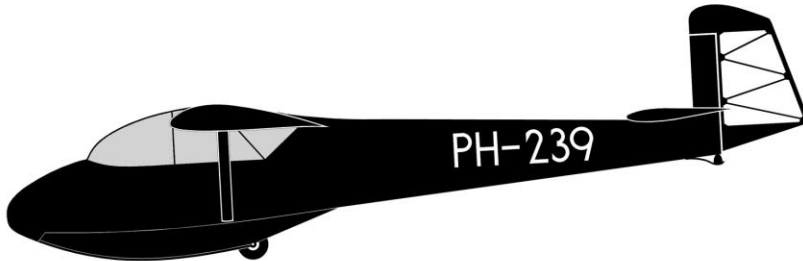
PH-455



K 8 B

1974 - 1979

PH-239

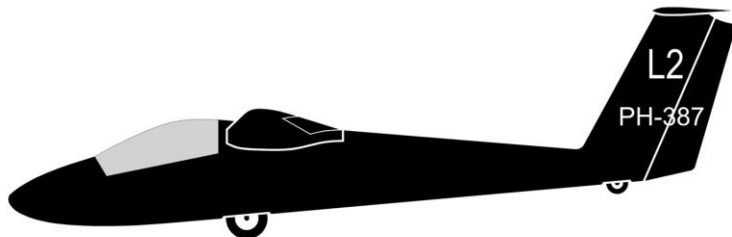


Ka 4 Rhönlerche II

1975 - 1985

PH-387

L2

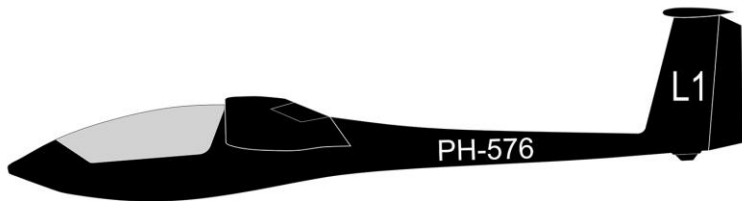


B4

1976 - 2002

PH-576

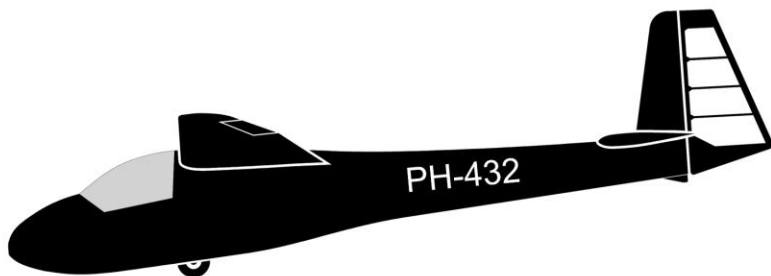
L1



Astir CS 77

1977 - 1990

PH-432



K 8 C

1980 - 1995

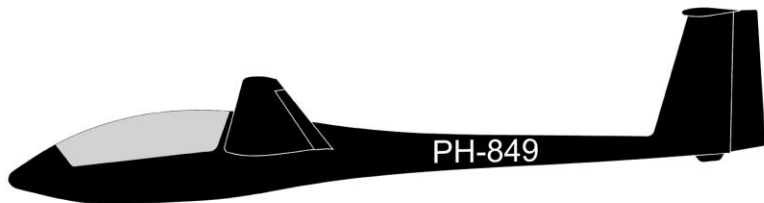
PH-791



ASK-13

1986 - 2008

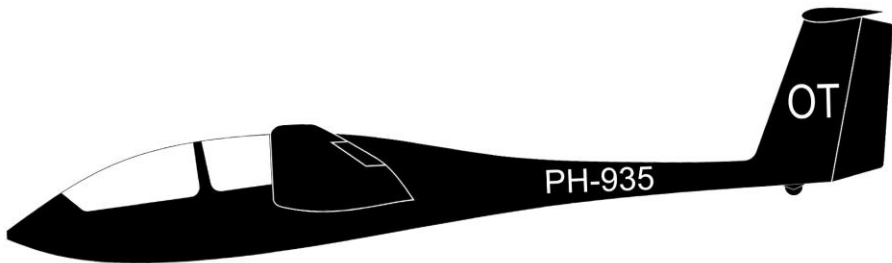
PH-849



LS3

1988 - 1998

PH-935

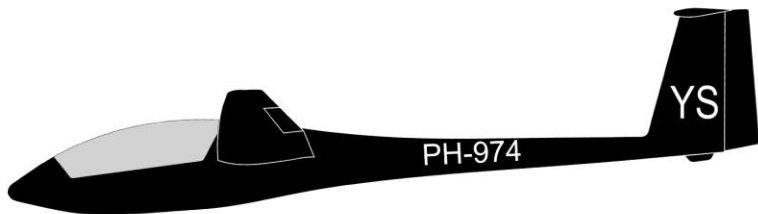


G 103 Twin Astir

1992 - 1999

PH-974

YS

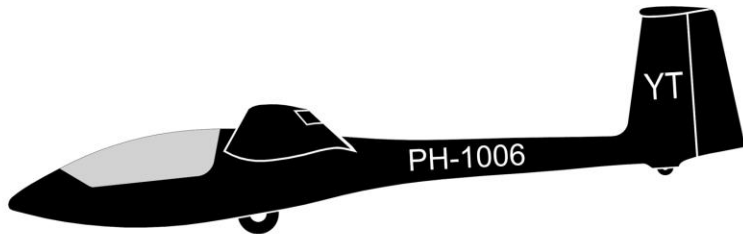


LS4-b

1993 - present

PH-1006

YT

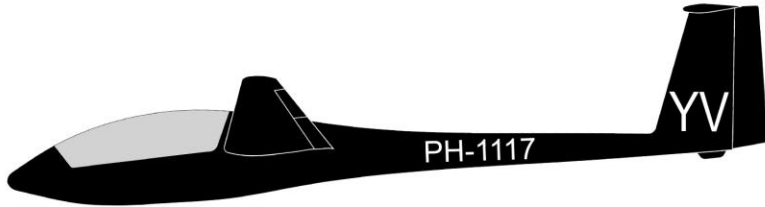


SZD-51-1-JUNIOR

1994 - present

PH-1117

YV



LS3-a

1997 - 2007

PH-1181

YW

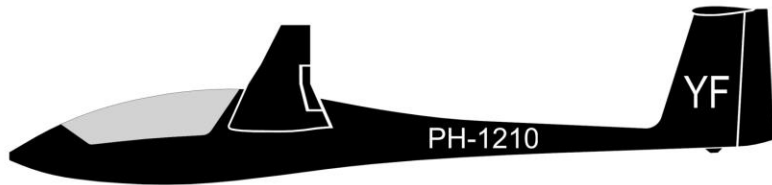


G103 Twin III Acro

1999 - 2005

PH-1210

YF



Discus 2b

2001 - present

PH-1382

YW

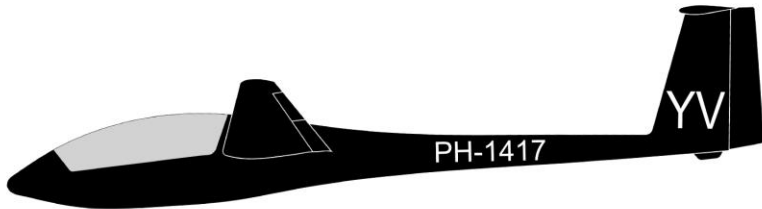


ASK-21

2007 - present

PH-1417

YV

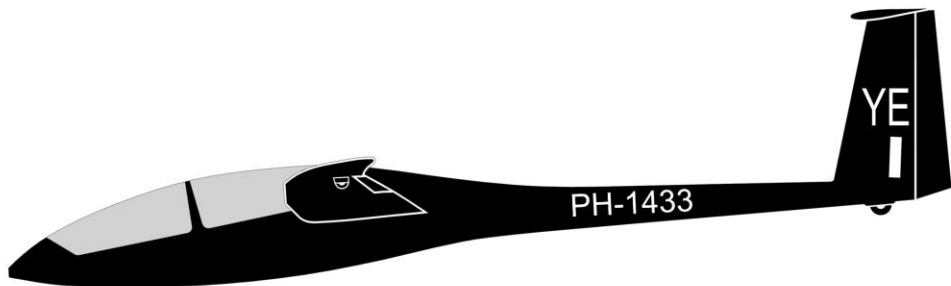


LS3-a

2008 - 2012

PH-1433

YE

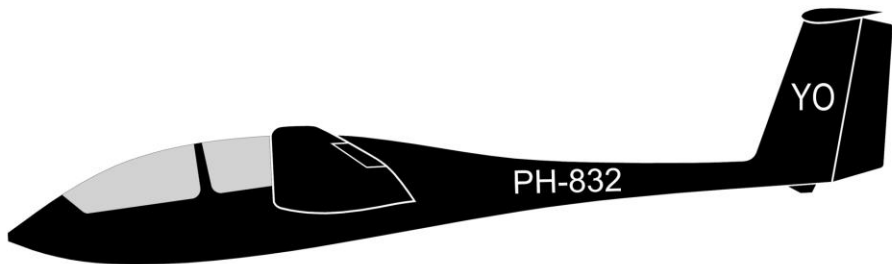


DG-1000S

2009 - present

PH-832

YO



G 103 Twin Astir

2012 - present

PH-1273

YZ

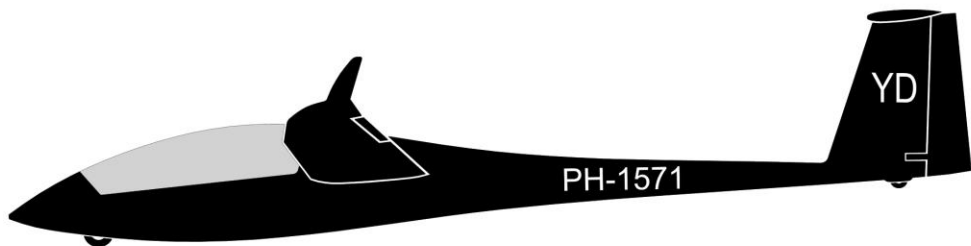


LS7-WL

2012 - present

PH-1571

YD

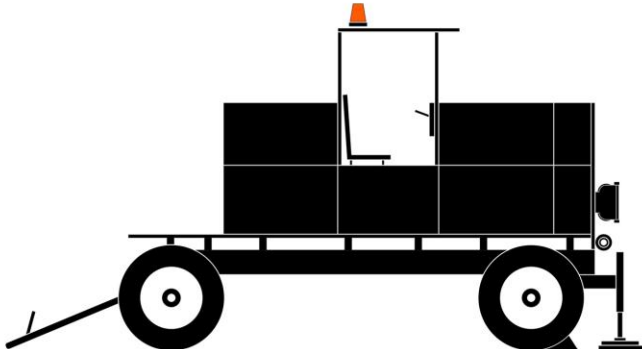


Duo Discus XLT

2016 - present

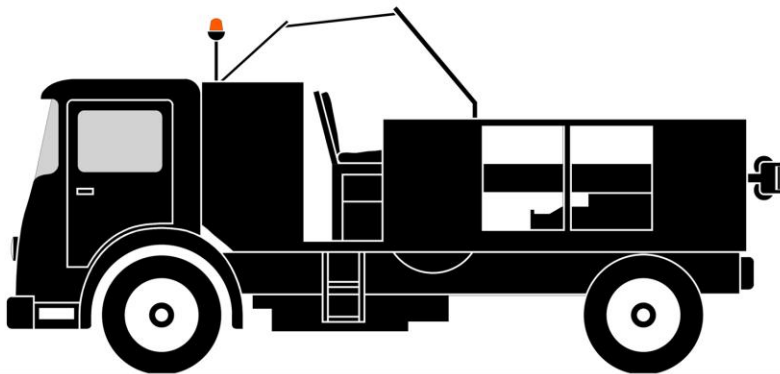
Hansa winch

1972 - 1973



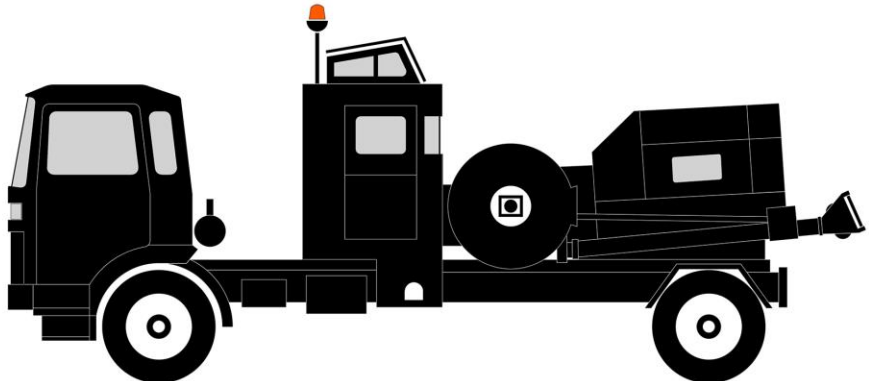
Sylt winch

1973 - 1987



Volvo KLu winch

1988 - 2012



DAF KLu winch

1990 - 2013



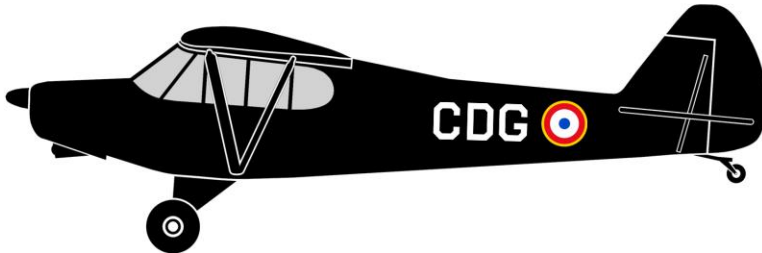
ESW-2B winch

2013 - present



G-CUBJ

CDG



Piper Super Cub

2018 - present

Dedicated to the first flight instructors, directors and winch operator

Flight Instructors

Henk Widman

Bruno Zijp

Huib Broekman

Louis Krens

Dick Robeer

Wim Eweg

Sjaak Potters

Pieter van Otterloo

Paul de Rijk

Jan Vellema

Tom van Doormaal

Directors

Piet Prinse

Henk de Groot

Arie Bogaerds

Wan Woordman

Huib Broekman

Piet Visser

Winch Operator

Jaap Reinsma

September 2, 2022

50 years of Gliding in the Dutch Flevopolder



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