



Annual report to CIMA from ISRAEL delegate

Introduction

Israel is CVFR airspace (Controlled VFR) which means that most flying areas are under control of a flight controller. As such, the Microlights and Ultralights are able to fly in a designated flying "bubbles" which are no-control zones limited by a 500 feet ceiling. Above that height and outside the "bubbles" the Microlight and Ultralights are controlled exactly the same as other aircrafts. In recent years, the Micro/Ultralight fleet has increased significantly due to improved regulations, additional airspace and "bubble" areas and improved aeronautical infrastructure (such as airfields, repair shop etc.).

Activity

The main activity is organized by the Israeli Light Sports Association, which is a non-profit organization that is aimed in promoting safety, sports activities and development of the hobby in Israel. Under the umbrella of the ILSA are 450 pilots, operating about 150 airplanes in different categories (Microlight, Ultralights, LSAs). The ILSA association holds periodical competitions in the areas of navigation (cooperation with the GA association), precise landings and short landings/takeoff. Other activities include formation flight shows (independence day), teaching flight lessons to teenagers and other community supporting activities.

Significant issues

In the past few years the ILSA has been heavily involved with the IFA authorities to adopt the LSA regulations and update the Israeli aviation law (dated to the 1920's) to a current one. In the last month, a significant progress was made when the Israeli Transport ministry has accepted an updated law regulation frame that includes several issues, one of which is an updated aviation law.

Part of the motivation for this new law approval was the fact that Israel was reduced to a Category II safety level, few years ago, by the FAA and is now improving its entire aviation infrastructure and regulations to be brought back to Category I.



Sports activities

The ILSI organization took upon itself to promote international collaboration with other sports flight clubs in other countries.

As part of this effort, was the planned WMC 2011 venue Israel. Unfortunately this needed to be canceled due to lack of participants and after much preparation work was completed, government permits obtained (caa, airforce and local authorities) and costs incurred.

As our internal conclusion we decided to try and aim for a future Israeli venue but to do so by bringing in the meanwhile, as many foreign pilots as possible creating a deeper knowledge of the possibilities of flying in our country.

As part of that effort, ILSI hosted a flight trip from the Czech Republic, of 4 airplanes and crews, which flew in August and stayed in Israel for a week. The visit included several flight trips with many friends and planes of the ILSI.

Another visit from the UK, of 2 airplanes, took place in September.

ILSI is looking to invite more delegates from other countries to fly into Israel and enjoy the ILSI hosting which includes many special flying surprises.

Both guests and local pilots had a fantastic flying experience.