

Submission to the independent aviation safety regulation review panel:

Name: Rolf Cetinski



I am a Glider pilot and a member of the Gliding Federation of Australia (GFA). I am also a general aviation private pilot and an active member of the Scouting Australia Air Activities Centre based at Camden, NSW.

A thriving aviation sector that includes strong sport aviation engagement is critical for Australia's future. Gliding clubs and other volunteer aviation organisations around Australia nurture young talent by providing a hands on and hence affordable introduction to many facets of the aviation industry. Unnecessary over-regulation and expense threaten this affordability and therefore also this much understated early training ground.

Having established personal friendships with many aviation professionals it never ceases to amaze how many of those careers began at a gliding club. Pilots, navigators, engineers, civil and military aviation executives, CASA officers; you don't need to search hard to find someone who started their career at a gliding club or other not for profit aviation organisation. The future safety of air transport in Australia depends on a continuing supply of such young talent. I dare not consider a future where these skills must be imported due to the mismanagement of our grass roots aviation resources.

Core messages for the panel to consider include:

- That Part 149 Approved Organisation model is the best way forward,
- Funding and the method of fair audit of the GFA requires ongoing consultation,
- GFA is held in high regard by aviation generally and is well placed in cooperation with CASA to build upon its existing administration and oversight of gliding in Australia,
- A Ministerial Policy is urgently needed directing CASA to adopt a core mission to support and promote the sport and recreational aviation sector.

I thank you for your attention and urge you to seriously consider the importance of the GFA, as a volunteer not for profit organisation, actively contributing to the future of Australian aviation.