Absolute Aviation World Records

The desirability of a standard procedure to certify air records was recognized early in the history of powered flight. In 1905, representatives of Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, and the US met in Paris to form the Federation Aeronautique Internationale, the world body of national aeronautic sporting interests. The FAI today comprises the national aero clubs of some 100 nations and certifies national records as world records. Since 1922, the National Aeronautic Association, based in Arlington, Va., has been the US representative to the FAI. The NAA supervises all attempts at world and world-class records in the United States. Absolute world records are the supreme achievements of all the records open to flying machines.


In March 2006, Steve Fossett in Virgin Atlantic GlobalFlyer set the world record for distance in a closed circuit without landing (25,293.86 miles).
The Robert J. Collier Trophy

This award, presented by the National Aeronautic Association, is the most prestigious in American aviation. It recognizes the "greatest achievement in aeronautics or astronautics in America, with respect to improving the performance, efficiency, and safety of air or space vehicles, the value of which has been thoroughly demonstrated by actual use during the preceding year." The award is named for a prominent publisher, sportsman, and aviator. Collier, the first person to purchase a Wright airplane for personal use, commissioned the trophy and presented it to the Aero Club of America (the forerunner of the NAA) in 1911.

1913 Orville Wright. Automatic stabilizer.
1914 Elmer A. Sperry. Gyroscopic control.
1916 Elmer A. Sperry. Drift indicator.
1917 No award.
1918 No award.
1919 No award.
1920 No award.
1921 Grover Loening. Aerial yacht.
1922 US Air Mail Service. One year without fatality.
1924 US Army Air Service. First aerial flight around world.
1925 S. Albert Reed. Metal propeller.
1928 Commerce Dept., Aeronautics Branch. Airways, air navigation facilities.
1929 National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. Cowling for radial air-cooled engines.
1930 Harold Pitcairn and staff. Autogiro.
1931 Packard Motor Car. Diesel aircraft engine.
1932 Glenn L. Martin. Two-engined, high-speed, weight-carryingairplane.
1935 Donald Douglas and staff. DC-2.
1936 Pan American Airways. Trans-Pacific and overwater operations.
1937 Army Air Corps. Design, flight test of XC-35 first pressurized cabin.
1938 Howard Hughes and crew. Around-the-world flight.
1940 Sanford Moss, Army Air Corps. Turbo-supercharger.
1943 Capt. Luis De Florez (USNR), Synthetic training devices.
1944 Gen. Carl A. Spaatz. US air campaign against Germany.
1945 Luis W. Alvarez. Ground-control approach radar landing system.
1946 Lewis A. Rodert. Thermal ice-prevention system.
1947 Lawrence D. Bell, John Stack, Capt. Charles E. Yeager. Supersonic flight.
1948 Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics. All-weather air traffic control system.
1949 William P. Lear. F-5 automatic pilot, automatic approach control coupler system.
1950 Helicopter industry, military services, Coast Guard. Rotary-wing aircraft in air rescue.
1951 John Stack, associates at Langley Aeronautical Laboratory, NACA. Transonic wind tunnel throat.
1954 Richard Travis Whitcomb. Discovery, verification of area rule, yielding higher speed and greater range.
The Robert J. Collier Trophy, continued

rescues.
1985 Russell W. Meyer, Cessna Aircraft, Cessna Citation 1996 Cessna Citation X design team. Cessna Citation X.
business jets. Outstanding safety.
Bruce Evans, team of volunteers. Voyager flight.
Advanced turboprop propulsion concepts. Combat Command, Defense Intelligence Agency.
program. 2000 Northrop Grumman, Rolls Royce, Raytheon, L-3
1990 Bell-Boeing team. V-22 Osprey. 2001 Pratt & Whitney, Rolls Royce, Lockheed Martin,
team. C-17.

The Mackay Trophy

The Mackay Trophy was established by Clarence H. Mackay, an industrialist, philanthropist, communications pioneer, and aviation enthusiast. Presented by the National Aeronautical Association, the trophy recognizes “the most meritorious flight of the year” by an Air Force member, members, or organization.

1916 No award. 1940 No award.
1917 No award. 1941 No award.
1918 Capt. E.V. Rickenbacker. 1942 No award.
1921 Lt. J.A. Macready. 1945 No award.
1925 Lts. C.K. Bettis and J. Doolittle. 1949 Capt. J.G. Gallagher and crew of Lucky Lady II.
1929 Capt. A.W. Stevens. 1953 40th Air Division, SAC.
1930 Maj. R. Royce. 1954 308th Bombardment Wing (M) and 38th Air Div., SAC.
1933 Capt. W.T. Larson. 1957 93rd Bombardment Wing, SAC.
1937 Capts. C.J. Crane and G.V. Holoman.
1938 2nd Bombardment Group, Lt. Col. R. Olds.
1940 No award.
1941 No award.
1942 No award.
1943 No award.
1944 No award.
1945 No award.
1946 No award.
1947 Capt. C.E. Yeager.
1949 Capt. J.G. Gallagher and crew of Lucky Lady II.
1950 27th Fighter Wing.
1951 Col. F.J. Ascani.
1953 40th Air Division, SAC.
1954 308th Bombardment Wing (M) and 38th Air Div., SAC.
1956 Capt. I.C. Kincheloe Jr., Air Research and Develop- ment Command.
1957 93rd Bombardment Wing, SAC.
1960 6593rd Test Sq., Hickam AFB, Hawaii.
1964 464th Troop Carrier Wing, TAC.
1969  49th Tactical Fighter Wing, TAC.
1973  MAC aircrews.
1977  C-5 aircrew (Capt. D.M. Sprinkel and crew).
1979  Maj. J.E. Mcardle Jr.
1980  Crews S-21 and S-31, 644th Bombardment Sq.
1982  B-52 Crew E-21, 19th Bombardment Wing.
1983  Capt. R.J. Goodman and his crew, 42nd Bombardment Wing, SAC.
1987  Det. 15, USAF Plant Representative Office, and B-1B SPO.
1988  C-5 crew, 436th Military Airlift Wing.
1989  B-1B crew, 96th Bomb Wing.
1990  AC-130 crew, 16th Special Operations Sq.
1992  C-130 crew, 310th Airlift Sq., ACC, Howard AFB, Panama.
1993  B-52 crew, 668th Bomb Sq., ACC.
1995  Aircrew BAT 01, Dyess AFB, Tex.
1997  Crew of Whiskey 05, 7th Special Operations Sq., RAF Mildenhall, UK.
2000  Crew of Air Evac 10E1/10E2, 86th AES and 75th AS, Ramstein AB, Germany.
2001  Crew of Knife 04, 20th SOS, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
2002  Crew of Grim 31, 16th SOS, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
2003  Crew of Vijay 10, 82nd AW, McChord AFB, Wash.
2004  Crews of Jolly 11 and Jolly 12, 41st and 38th Rescue Sqs. (respectively), Moody AFB, Ga.

In 2004, the Mackay Trophy for most meritorious flight of the year was awarded to the crews of Jolly 11 and Jolly 12, pictured here.
The Gen. Thomas D. White USAF Space Award

The Gen. Thomas D. White USAF Space Award is named for the fourth Air Force Chief of Staff, a longtime champion of USAF's role in space. The Air Force selects the recipients among USAF individuals or organizations that made the year's outstanding progress in the field of aerospace. It was established in 1961 and, until 1996, sponsored by the National Geographic Society. It is now an AFA national award sponsored by the Gen. B.A. Schriever Los Angeles Chapter.

1963 Maj. L. Gordon Cooper.
1965 Lt. Col. Edward H. White II.
1966 Alexander H. Flax.
1974 No award.
1978 No award.
1996 No award.
1998 Gen. Howell M. Estes III.
2002 Lt. Gen. Roger G. DeKok, USAF (Ret.).
2005 Peter B. Teets

The Raytheon Hughes Achievement Award

The Raytheon Hughes Achievement Award (formerly the Hughes Trophy) is presented annually to the top Air Force squadron with an air defense/air superiority mission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Unit, Base</th>
<th>Aircraft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>58th FIS, Otis AFB, Mass.</td>
<td>F-94C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>96th FIS, New Castle County Airport, Del.</td>
<td>F-94C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>496th FIS, Landstuhl AB, West Germany</td>
<td>F-86D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>317th FIS, McChord AFB, Wash.</td>
<td>F-86D/F-102A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>512th FIS, RAF Bentwaters, UK</td>
<td>F-86D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>31st FIS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>54th FIS, Ellsworth AFB, S.D.</td>
<td>F-89J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>460th FIS, Portland Arpt., Ore.</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>83rd FIS, Hamilton AFB, Calif.</td>
<td>F-101B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>444th FIS, Charleston AFB, S.C.</td>
<td>F-101B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>497th FIS, Torrejon AB, Spain</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>329th FIS, George AFB, Calif.</td>
<td>F-106A/B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>317th FIS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>32nd FIS, Soesterberg AB, Netherlands</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>317th FIS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska</td>
<td>F-106A/B</td>
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<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>64th FIS, Clark AB, Philippines</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
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<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>71st FIS, Malmstrom AFB, Mont.</td>
<td>F-106A/B</td>
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<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>57th FIS, NAS Keflavik, Iceland</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>48th FIS, Langley AFB, Va.</td>
<td>F-106A/B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>43rd TFS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska</td>
<td>F-4E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>555th TFS, Udorn RTAB, Thailand</td>
<td>F-4D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>119th FIG (ANG), Hector Field, N.D.</td>
<td>F-101B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>318th FIG, McChord AFB, Wash.</td>
<td>F-106A/B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>57th FIS, NAS Keflavik, Iceland</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
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<tr>
<td>1977</td>
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<td>49th FIS, Griffiss AFB, N.Y.</td>
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<td>32nd TFS, Soesterberg AB, Netherlands</td>
<td>F-15A/B</td>
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<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>32nd TFS, Soesterberg AB, Netherlands</td>
<td>F-15A/B</td>
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<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>12th TFS, Kadena AB, Japan</td>
<td>F-15A/C/D</td>
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<td>1982</td>
<td>44th TFS, Kadena AB, Japan</td>
<td>F-15A/C/D</td>
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<td>1983</td>
<td>67th TFS, Kadena AB, Japan</td>
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<td>1984</td>
<td>318th FIS, McChord AFB, Wash.</td>
<td>F-15A/B</td>
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<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>120th FIG (ANG), Great Falls Arpt., Mont.</td>
<td>F-106A/B</td>
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<td>1986</td>
<td>67th TFS, Kadena AB, Japan</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>57th FIS, NAS Keflavik, Iceland</td>
<td>F-15A/C/D</td>
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<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>22nd TFS, Bitburg AB, West Germany</td>
<td>F-15A/C/D</td>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>67th TFS, Kadena AB, Japan</td>
<td>F-15A/C/D</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>58th FIS, Eglin AFB, Fla.</td>
<td>F-15A/C/D</td>
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<td>1991</td>
<td>58th FIS, Eglin AFB, Fla.</td>
<td>F-15A/C/D</td>
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<td>59th FS, Eglin AFB, Fla.</td>
<td>F-15A/C/D</td>
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<td>1993</td>
<td>71st FS, Langley AFB, Va.</td>
<td>F-15C</td>
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<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>178th FS (ANG), Hector Arpt., N.D.</td>
<td>F-16A/B</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>60th FS, Eglin AFB, Fla.</td>
<td>F-15A/C/D</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>493rd FS, RAF Lakenheath, UK</td>
<td>F-15C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>493rd FS, RAF Lakenheath, UK</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>19th FS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska</td>
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<td>F-15C</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
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<td>F-15A/C/D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>71st FS, Langley AFB, Va.</td>
<td>F-15A/C/D</td>
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