



**FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE
INTERNATIONALE
Ballooning Commission**

Hall of Fame

STEVE FOSSETT
INDUCTED 1997



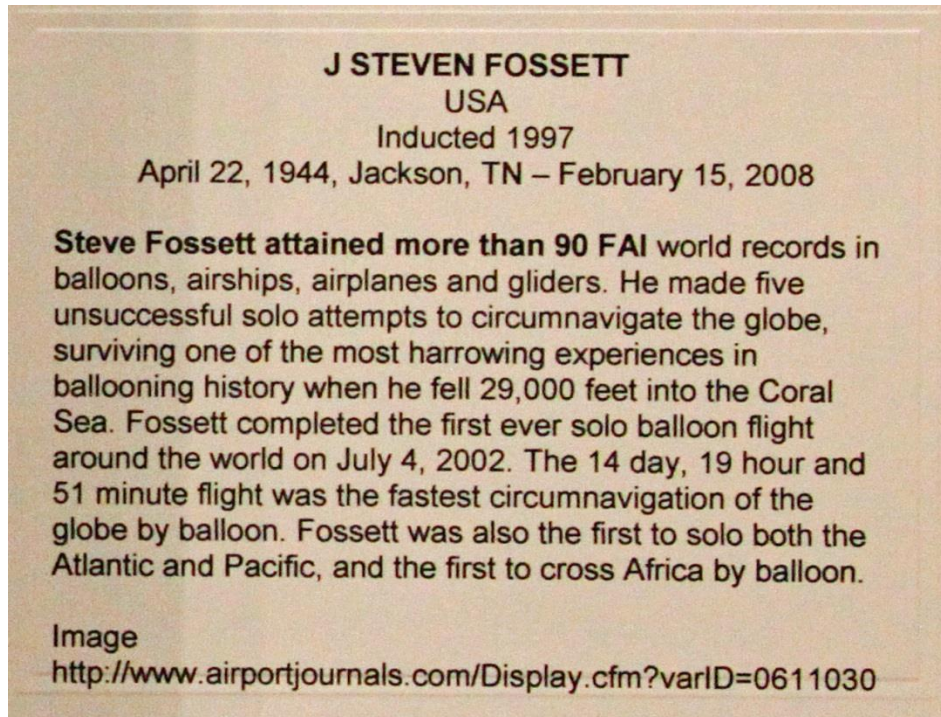


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March 26, 1997 -- Steve Fossett, who recently flew nearly half way around the world in a roziere (combination gas and hot air) balloon, was named to the International Balloon & Airship Hall of Fame for 1997, housed at the Soukup & Thomas International Balloon & Airship Museum in Mitchell, SD, USA.

Steve Fossett will hold the Absolute World Distance Record and Absolute World Duration Record in balloons, with a distance of 16,673.81 kilometers and 6 days, 2 hours and 50 minutes flying time. He also broke his own Absolute Distance Record which he had set when he was the first person to fly solo in a balloon across the Pacific Ocean in 1995.

Quite the adventurer, Steve Fossett has also sailed solo across both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and is known for his auto racing, running Triathalons, dogsled racing and he even swam the English Channel (21 miles) and both ways in the Turkish Dardanelles.

Steve Fossett will be inducted into the Hall of Fame during the annual Corn Palace Balloon Rally Awards Banquet on Sunday, June 22, 1997 in Mitchell where he will make a short speech.

Additional photos and information can be found on the Balloon Federation of America's National Balloon Museum Website: <http://www.nationalballoonmuseum.com/HallofFame>