

Innovation starts at an early age



Everyone is talking about innovation. In politics and for the economy, innovation is seen as a vital driving force for growth. Sadly, we often forget that innovation starts at an early age. The prerequisites for this are good schooling and, where possible, practical education. Aeromodelling combines the two.

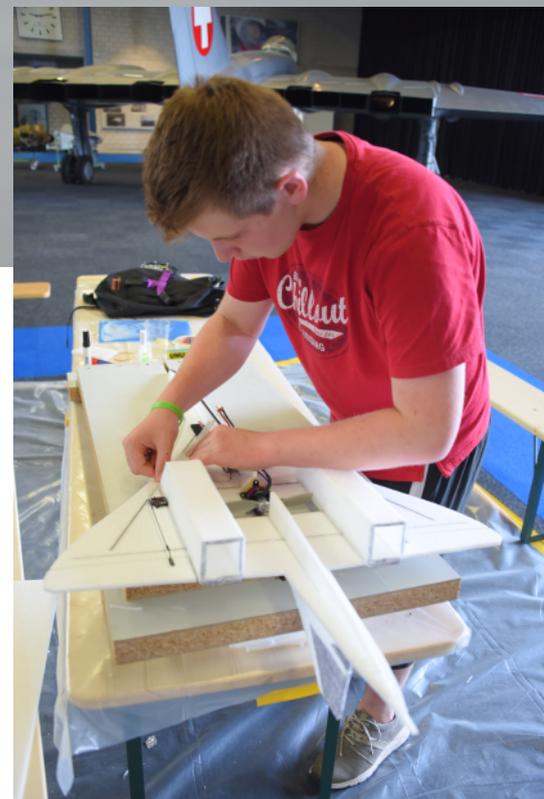
Humans with their curiosity are central

Everyone has a natural curiosity from a very young age which has to be encouraged at school and by our society. Too many rules and restrictive structures not only take over independent thinking, but also cause initiative and imagination to waste away. More and more areas of life are dominated by increasing amounts of legislation, forms and instructions which promote the

exact opposite of creativity and innovative energy, i.e. lethargy and dependency. We must be particularly mindful of this when planning activities for young people. Formalism is off-putting!

The biggest opportunity ever for aeromodelling

While schooling, apprenticeships and further education are getting



The building of a Concorde

more and more cerebral and young people are spending a lot of their time in front of screens and with their smartphones, the design and building of model aircraft and the analysis of test flights turn into a unique challenge. We must make use of these opportunities in our organisations by providing not only construction and flying courses with standard models, but also making it possible for young flyers to develop and build an aircraft to their own ideas and concepts. This involves practical work in connection with the necessary theoretical principles.

well as tools and technical accessories. If the aircraft is to be provided with propulsion, I recommend simple electric motors.



Painting can be creative too

Experienced aeromodellers are needed

In contrast to construction courses with standard models, teaching creative model building workshops places higher demands on organisers and instructors. Not only considerable expertise, but also patience and educational skill are required to find the right moment to lend a helping hand or sporadically impart a few important theoretical basics. Organisers have to provide a wide variety of materials, such as foam panels, glue, carbon rods and wood, as



Advice and support at the right time are important



Appearance is secondary

Appearance is generally less important for young inventors and designers than the functioning of the aircraft. It is often the weirdest looking planes that fly best. But there are also those who invest a lot of time in paint jobs for their creation.



Unlimited ideas



Steps to success

When announcing the workshop, it is important to state that the event is intended for young people with minimal aeromodelling experience, i.e. basic knowledge regarding the handling of a radio-controlled aeroplane. The huge available range of ready-built model toys of all types makes this very accessible. It is also suggested to let participants bring simple drawings of their designs. The young people will then be fully motivated from the start to implement these "documented ideas". They will get going with their project with great enthusiasm and never cease to amaze us.



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