

WE DEVOTED THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR 2017 TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST TWO SPECIMENS OF THE SONACA 200 INTENDED FOR THE GROUND AND FLIGHT TESTS.



The first aircraft (FTA1, Flight Test Aircraft 1), assembled at Sonaca's site in Belgium, was entirely dedicated to ground tests. We tested the resistance of the seats, the seat-belts (harness) as well as the engine mount and the nose gear leg by simulating hard landings or through crosswind. By the end of February, the wing resistance tests were carried out by the IABG, an aeronautical test centre based in Germany and specialised in resistance tests.



The wing of the Sonaca 200 on its test bench for limit-load, ultimate and failure load.

80% of the structure of the Sonaca 200 resized compared to the initial « amateur-built » version

The shape of the aircraft, the wing profile and the choice of the materials have been maintained. Regarding modifications and improvements to the prototype, 80% of the initial structure has been overhauled in order to meet the market demands, on the one hand, and the requirements for EASA certification, on the other hand. The structural resistance has been significantly modified to withstand a maximum take-off weight of 750kg with a load factor of 4,4G, representing a 25% increase compared to the initial aircraft.

We have just started the flight test program using the second aircraft (FTA2, Flight Test Aircraft 2), assembled in Gosselies. This second test phase will last 4 months and reach up to a hundred of flight hours. The flight test campaign will mostly unfold in South of France (for meteorological reasons).



During the certification program, we keep on accepting pre-orders of the aircraft which achieves an appreciable commercial success throughout Europe.

The first deliveries of the Sonaca 200 are still expected at the end of 2017!

Sonaca Aircraft pursues its presentation tour of the Sonaca 200

Our team travels throughout Europe to introduce our new aircraft to private pilots and instructors (training centres). The Sonaca 200 took off last spring to Scandinavia and visited Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Norway. Thanks to the great visibility offered by the cockpit and its canopy, the pilots could enjoy the view on the Fjords and other magnificent landscapes! Sonaca Aircraft remains at your disposal to introduce and let you try the Sonaca 200.



Please contact us to arrange an appointment: info@sonaca-aircraft.com

"We flew the Sonaca 200" Major Frédéric Vansina, Belgian Air Force, testifies



On April 21, Major General Frederik Vansina, Belgian Air Force, visited Sonaca Aircraft for a flight with the Sonaca 200. Find out its testimony below. Our thanks to Major Vansin for honouring us by his visit!

"The Sonaca 200 flies like a champion! Both elegant and robust thanks to its metallic construction, the access on board is easy. The ground steering system enables a precise control of the nose gear and a light action on the rudder is sufficient to maintain the aircraft on the runway during take-off. The Sonaca climbs fast thanks to a good thrust/weight ratio and accelerates rapidly to reach its cruise speed of 120 knots. During all the flight phases, the aircraft behaves obediently and predictably, and therefore qualifies as an ideal training aircraft for ab initio pilots. Landing is eased by the commands that are precise at low speed.

The Sonaca is an aircraft particularly well suited. The notion "Made by pilots for pilots" which appears on the aircraft can actually be felt throughout the flight. Congratulations to Sonaca for achieving such an outstanding aircraft!"

Congratulations to Guillaume Dohet on its participation to the Open Belgium Gliding Nationals which took place from May 20 to 28 at Saint-Hubert Airfield (Belgium)!



We look forward to meeting you, by the end of 2017, for the next issue of our Newsletter. In the meantime, we invite you to follow us and interact with Sonaca Aircraft's team via e-mail or social networks.