

The CIVA championship scoring system

The CIVA scoring software “ACRO” has for many years been developed using Microsoft Visual Studio 2010 in 32-bit format, this version of VS being retained to provide a stable environment and avoid the code changes demanded by later variations that would not necessarily have enhanced the capability of the software. Clearly however it would be preferable if this vital software package was based within a current coding environment as this would allow it to be more easily transferred to another party nominated by CIVA if the need arises.



Future-proofing

Early this year therefore a parallel development was commenced using the VS-2022 package, a large number of low-level code changes being identified to allow ACRO to perform reliably in this new environment. This separate new code-base has been extremely useful to develop and introduce some new features to the published version, which has remained in VS-2010.

For 2023 the published version of ACRO will be brought to VS-2022 64-bit standard, the compile target being to standard 8086 style CPU requirements and therefore compatible with all MS operating systems from Windows-3 onwards. This new development package supporting ACRO should thus be familiar to anyone with relevant Visual Studio / VB experience.

Software and output developments envisaged

I am keenly aware that an understanding by competitors and judges regarding how and why FPS does its job is a fundamental need. For judges the web performance analysis pages now created by ACRO deliver a rich resource to help them evaluate their assessments compared to their colleagues, and the annual rank-based records on the CIVA Results home page provide key information for judging panel selections in every category each year.

Missing from all this however is a parallel data interpretation resource for pilots, and I plan to make this a vital consideration through 2023. The FPS “why” per figure / per pilot is in essence logical and simple, but the successive calculation stages are relatively complex and will require clear graphical presentation. So far I am not brimming with good ideas – if any among you with appropriate computer / graphical skills is able to help then please let me know.



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