

# Dittmar Condor IV

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The Dittmar *Condor IV* detailed in these photographs was seen while visiting the Wabash Valley Soaring Association's 2005 Classic/Vintage Sailplane Regatta held at Lawrenceville, Illinois, the week of June 11 through 19th, 2005.

Owned by Robert Gaines of Jasper, Georgia, this is the second of two *Condor IVs* built by Heini Dittmar in 1951.

Based on Heini's pre-WWII *Condor* designs, the *Condor IV* uses the Gottingen 532 airfoil resulting in a thin 12.5% thick wing, one of the thinnest used on a wood wing sailplane. The beefier spar resulted in each wing panel weighing over 200

pounds, a fact that becomes obvious when assembling the sailplane!

Further *Condor IVs* were built under license in Germany by Schmetz (5 units) and Schleicher (7 units). Schleicher's *Condor IVs* have a redesigned fuselage which reduced the overall weight and enlarged the cockpit area. A small production run of *Condor IVs* was undertaken in Argentina.

Robert's beautiful *Condor IV* is the only flying two place gull wing sailplane in the U.S. though there is an Argentinian license built *Condor IV* awaiting restoration in California.

<u>Dittmar Condor IV</u>	
Span	18 meters
Length	8.3 meters
Wing area	21.3 m <sup>2</sup>
Empty weight	330 kg
Flying weight	510 kg
Best glide	30:1 @80km/hr.
Sink rate	0.71 m/s @ 70km/hr.











Konstr. Heini Dittmar 1951  
Weltrekord 100 km Dreieck  
Worldchampionship 1952 Spain





