

## Public Letter 3-09

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# Oldies are Trendy

The term "retrospective" (from lat.: retrospectare = looking back) is often used to characterise art exhibitions. Today, aeroplanes dating back to the pioneering days can certainly be considered to be "works of art".



### The Retro Movement

The term "retro" has become a catchword and, since the 1970s, has constantly gained importance in our society. In a time in which faith in progress, innovation and change, often contrary to all common sense, appears to prevail, the retro movement can in fact be understood as a trend that is critical of progress. There is hardly an area of our social life where this widely used fashionable term has not made an entrance. Quite frequently developments and even new creations emerge from such reversions to concepts and styles of bygone

eras, making the retro movement go far beyond the world of museums and galleries.

### Restoring and Recreating

Technology today is an almost infinite area of the retro movement: old-timer cars, aeroplanes, trains, etc. along with specific events of past times such as races, record flights, Alpine or Atlantic crossings etc. Often, old equipment and vehicles or aeroplanes are lovingly restored and maintained for these events or recreated according to old drawings.





### Entrance in Aeromodelling

The retro trend has also long made an entrance in aeromodelling where there are two major categories:

Replication or restoration of old model aircrafts and replication of full size aeroplanes.

### Two Categories

1. Replication or restoration of old model planes. Subgroups of this category include old model gliders, motorised planes or control line planes.
2. Faithful replication of full size aeroplanes from old times, scaled down to model aeroplanes. Subcategories include Warbirds, old gliders, single or multiple engine old-timer aeroplanes. The builder of this model aircrafts can also be competitor of World Championships of the International Airports Organisation FAI.  
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### Against Standardisation

More and more active aeromodellers are building or restoring such flying models and holding meets to exchange experiences and present their "new" oldies. Without doubt, the trend towards oldies is also a kind of countermovement to the hugely increased availability of ready-built or nearly ready-built model aircrafts. The oldie trend has created real competition for the standardisation of model planes seen on airfields.