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**Operating Instructions**

Mistral²

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Layout & Illustration
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03/14/2001
The SWING MISTRAL 2 is a very modern glider. During construction and development your safety was our prime consideration together with excellent performance. The MISTRAL 2 is therefore an ideal intermediate glider for pilots with some experience.

Our main priorities when designing this glider were its stability, speed when accelerated and good handling characteristics.

This manual is very detailed. It helps you to get to know your new glider. The descriptions of the extreme flying situations acquaint you with the characteristics of the MISTRAL 2. However, we recommend that you try the limits of your new equipment little by little and at a considerable height. Certain extreme manoeuvres must only be performed above water and with appropriate equipment (emergency parachute, buoyancy aid) and at first only under supervision.

Your MISTRAL 2 was test flown at the factory and/or by your dealer. Nevertheless you should check it at a training site for correct working order. Choose light conditions for the first few flights and a friendly take off site.

Remember: accident free and enjoyable flying is far more important than a few additional moments in the air or showing off near the ground.

We hope you will have much fun and joy with your new "SWING-MISTRAL 2". Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.

Your SWING TEAM
The MISTRAL 2 is a paraglider and must therefore not be used as a jump parachute. The use of the equipment is at your own risk. The manufacturers accept no liability for damage caused by or to the glider.

**Speedsystem**

The MISTRAL 2 is equipped with a foot-operated speed bar that is attached to the risers. Once you have attached the foot bar you increase your speed by pressing it down. In the chapter on "Flying" we will discuss this in more detail.

Pre-flight Checks

**Risers**

The Mistral 2 has a divided A riser. This allows you to do big ears whilst pulling the two outer A risers (A2) without searching for the right A-lines.
**Suitable Harnesses**

The Mistral 2 is certified in the DHV class 2GH this means you need to fly a harness with a GH classification. Almost all modern harnesses are classified with GH but to be sure you could inform yourself at the DHV homepage (www.dhv.de)

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**Preflightcheck**

Apart from the usual checks, start at any point and work round the whole canopy, checking its sewing, lines, knots and fabric. Follow this checklist very carefully:

**Checklist**

- Has any damage occurred due to ultraviolet rays? Though the fabric has been UV treated, it is not UV resistant.
- Does the glider show signs of tearing/ripping or other damage?
- Check each line individually. Is it in proper working order? Are the knots in the correct position? The lines should not be tangled or show signs of wear and tear.
- Check the brake lines are in proper working order, correctly adjusted, free running and securely connected to the handle.
- Are all triangle locks properly screwed shut?
- Are the canopy and the risers dry? Never fly with a wet canopy as this makes the take-off more difficult and changes the way the glider behaves.
- Check the seat and harness: Ensure the leg straps are of equal length and secure, the chest strap is secured, and all adjustments are correct.
- Check the brake handles, risers and seams for faults.

---

**Start**

**Arranging the Canopy**

We recommend that you spread out the canopy in a semi-circle, open towards the way you are going to run. Pull the lines until they are taut and start disentangling the lines, especially brake lines.

**Take off**

In light winds use all the A risers. In stronger winds use only the inner As: this results in the middle cells filling first and produces a slower launch.

In lighter conditions the wing rarely surges on take off, but in stronger conditions it may be necessary to apply brakes to prevent over flying.
Flight
Your MISTRAL 2 has excellent flying characteristics, yet we recommend that you get to know your glider very thoroughly. In this handbook we have divided the flying instructions into three chapters:

1. flying characteristics
2. rapid descent techniques
3. extreme flying manoeuvres

The latter deals with the special characteristics of your MISTRAL 2, but their execution demand some degree of experience. We strongly discourage artistic display flying. We strongly recommend safety training, for which your dealer will provide information.

1. Flying Characteristics

Best Glide
The best glide (lift/drag ratio) is achieved in calm air without using brakes or speed bar. Into wind, the speed bar should be pressed down progressively. When flying downwind, applying a little brake will improve the glide.

Minimum sink
This is achieved with 20 - 30 % braking. Beyond that the harder you brake the slower you fly and your sink rate increases. This is particularly relevant when preparing to land.

Turning
Weight shifting to the inside will produce a flatter, more efficient, turn. When performing tight turns in thermals, brake your MISTRAL 2 on both sides and correct the radius of the circle by the outside brake. When entering thermals or in order to achieve steeper bank angles only brake on one side. Although the MISTRAL 2 has minimal negative tendencies, you should do this manoeuvre with "feeling".

When you loose the brake control you may use the D risers for steering. This is only in an emergency situation and you should pull the risers very sensitive.

Flying in Turbulence
When flying in turbulent conditions you should apply slight brake pressure to both sides - around 20 % - to maintain a good angle of attack, thus reducing any tendency to collapse. Try to keep the canopy above you by actively working with the brakes. This requires some training, but is essential for safe flying in turbulence.
However, should a collapse occur, it is important to maintain your direction and if necessary steer away from any obstacles. Do not attempt to re-inflate the canopy by "pumping" until you are once again flying straight and stable on a safe course.

**Note:** If an asymmetric collapse occurs, use the opposite brake to maintain straight flight. But better too little brake than too much - the heavier wing loading with a partially collapsed wing means the stall speed is higher. Too much counter steering with a partially collapsed wing could induce a stall.

**Note:** The canopy becomes more sensitive when the speed-bar is being used. We recommend that in strong turbulence it is only used with great care. Should a collapse occur whilst the bar is pressed down, release immediately. Steer a safe course and "pump" the collapse out with the brake on the collapsed side.

**Accelerator (Speed System)**

You need to practice using the foot-operated speed bar. To be able to control your glider with your feet as well as with your hands is especially important when flying in turbulence. When changing from lift to sink it is essential to take your feet off the accelerator in order to reduce the risk of collapses.

**Remember:** Flying accelerated the canopy has a lower angle of attack this means a collapse may occur much easier! So it is obvious that you should not use the accelerator flying with minimum height.

Flying with big ears it is very useful to use the accelerator also: the angle of attack increases doing the big ears, the glider is slower and the parachutal stall is not so far away. Accelerating decreases the angle of attack and the glider is faster.

**Parachutal Stall**

A stable parachutal stall has not been achieved in test flights. Should your glider nevertheless engage in continuous vertical descent, give the A risers a short downwards pull until the canopy resumes its forward flight.
2. Rapid Descent Techniques

**Big Ears**
Using "big ears" with your MISTRAL 2 increases the descent rate to about 4 m/s. To do this, grasp the outer A risers as high up as possible and, without letting go of the brakes, pull the risers down until the wing tips fold under. The speed decreases with big ears so please take care that you are not blown back into a lee side. Big ears can also be useful in avoiding being sucked up into clouds. To open up the ears "pump" the brakes steadily to encourage opening.

You can increase both your descent rate and forward speed when flying with big ears by fully pressing the foot speed bar. This puts you into a very stable state of flight and allows limited steering with your body.

**NOTE:** Big ears increases your angle of attack and therefore braking increases the chance of a parachutal stall. Using the speedbar counteracts this. Using big ears and accelerator together increases your descent rate to around 6 mps.

NEVER ever attempt spirals with big ears or speed bar

**B-line Stall**
This is another method of descent giving an even greater rate of loss of height (up to 8m/s). Grip the B lines above the B line triangle locks and pull both risers down evenly. Initially this requires considerable effort, but resistance decreases once head height is reached, and the descent rate increases noticeably.

Pull the risers about 15cm and hold this position. If you pull too far the glider may form a horseshoe. This is not a stable situation so if the glider starts getting an horseshoe please release the B-risers and do the B-stall again.

End the manoeuvre by releasing the risers simultaneously and quickly. If released too slowly you might enter a parachutal stall.

However, the canopy should automatically rectify this itself (see parachutal stall).

**Spirals**
Using steep spirals increases your descent rate to above 10 m/s. Start by depressing one brake slowly and continuously. Should you lose speed whilst spiralling, do not just give another pull. Instead start the manoeuvre all over again. Light pilots (below the average pilot's weight for their wing) are advised to start off by swinging up and into the spiral.

Weightshifting helps to start the spiral. To finish, simply release the brake. Due to it's momentum it is possible that the canopy will continue turning for a short while.

**To stop turning, gently apply the opposite brake.**
3. Extreme Flight Manoeuvres

The following instructions describe in more detail the characteristics of the MISTRAL 2. They will enable you to select the best way to manoeuvre the glider out of extreme situations.

**Full Stall**

This may occur:
- if you fly head on into a thermal whilst braking hard.
- when braking hard above 100 % (hands at seat height). Full stall is indicated when the canopy softens in zero position and then falls backwards. **The MISTRAL 2 then stabilises in full stall above the pilot. Do not open the brakes in this situation!**

To achieve the full stall we recommend that you wrap the brake lines round your wrists at least once. Press the brakes down slowly until your forward speed decreases markedly. As you keep applying the brakes the canopy continues to fall backwards. **It is most important that you DO NOT RELEASE THE BRAKES during this phase.** The canopy then contracts and stabilises itself above you, its "wing tips" pointing forwards. The brake pressure in this condition is very high.

To exit from a full stall there are two methods:

Once the wing is stable overhead, fully release both brakes simultaneously over a period of 1-2 seconds. The wing will surge a little and resume normal flight. This method can lead to wing tip tucks and even possibly cravating. The second method is preferred.

Ease the brakes up slowly until the wing has inflated over its full width. The wing may pendulum slightly. At the forwardmost point release the brakes quickly and the Astral2 will resume normal flight. It is important to give the canopy sufficient time to open up.

**Note:** Should your MISTRAL 2 develop a full stall during a previously described situation, do not suddenly release the brakes, but guide the canopy back into its normal flying position. This prevents the violent pendulum effect (sudden dynamic surge of canopy).

**Front-Stall**

Start by pulling the front risers (A risers) down until the whole front collapses completely. This way you can stabilise the canopy at a descent rate of 3 - 5 m/s. If you pull the risers further, the canopy will collapse into a U shape, and the descent exceeds a speed of over 5 m/s. To open the canopy, **QUICKLY** let go of the risers.

The canopy will open up above you and resume flight at the basic speed without surging forwards. **Braking a little helps to open up the front stall immediately.**
**Negative Turns (Flat Spins)**

These may occur:
whilst braking hard when one brake is either applied more or released faster than the other.

When braking hard to over 70% on one side only from normal flying position. Flat spins usually occur during thermal flying; when initiating a new flying position too hastily.

Negative turns are indicated by the softening of the excessively pulled side of the canopy, which recedes backwards. Should you encounter this state, **RELEASE THE BRAKES immediately!** The canopy will automatically stabilise itself. Should an asymmetric collapse occur, counter as described in "flying in turbulence".

**Front Tuck**

This may occur in strong turbulence. The MISTRAL 2 will automatically stabilise itself. You can aid this by braking gently on both sides. Collapse of one wing and flying in turbulent conditions were discussed above.

**Landing**

To reduce the forward speed when coming in to land, brake at about 50%. You achieve a soft landing if you further increase braking just before touch down. With brake lines with a lot of slack it may help to take a turn around your hands.

**Folding away**

We recommend that you sort the lines before you fold up your canopy and loosely throw them on top of it. Folding the canopy from both ends towards the middle has proven successful. You end up with a strip approx. 60 cm wide. Roll this up from the trailing edge to the leading edge and hold together with the strap provided. Using the enclosed inner rucksack offers additional protection against damage.
**Transport**

Paraglider equipment is best transported in its own rucksack or carrying case. Sunlight and too much heat can affect the equipment adversely. If transporting your glider by car, please remember that the exhaust can substantially heat up some parts of the boot, which can be damaging to both fabric and lines. For the same reason it is recommended that you do not leave your unprotected equipment behind car windows, where it can be heated by the sun. Leaving your wing open on the ground, un-covered when not in use, will also cause premature UV degradation of the cloth.

**Storage**

All the equipment should be stored away from light in a dry, well ventilated room, and protected from temperature fluctuations. Rooms where petrol, solvents, or other chemically aggressive substances are stored are unsuitable. If you are unable to use your glider for any length of time, open up the rucksack, release the strap and slightly unroll the canopy, so that air can circulate round it and that there is no tension in the fabric.

Should the canopy has become wet, spread it out so that air can reach all parts. This is best achieved by pulling out the whole leading edge. Even if the fabric feels dry, the canopy may not be. The fibres retain moisture and the water takes longer to diffuse out of the fibres than it takes to evaporate on the surface. Thus your canopy may feel dry in the evening, but may be wet again the following morning.

It can take several days for the canopy to dry out completely, yet this is an essential process because a wet glider could have a much different flightbehaviour.

**Servicing**

Your equipment needs constant checking, i.e. especially the canopy material, the seams, lines and, last but not least, the harness and straps.

**Guarantee and checking**

The glider must be checked every 100 hours or at the latest every 2 years. This airworthiness check must be done at a Swing authorised workshop. The Swing guarantee and the airworthiness become invalid if you miss those checks!

**Checking**

Your glider and especially the lines may become distorted by extreme weather conditions or excessive use. Should you get the impression that your glider's performance has changed, please return it to us or measure the lines as follows:

- Sort the lines.
- Using a spring balance adjust each line to at tension of 5 kilograms.
- Measure the individual lengths of the lines and compare with your handbook.

If your checks reveal considerable variations, please contact us. There is no need to swap parts of your glider routinely. Should it be necessary to replace parts following damage or wear and tear, only original parts, or those authorised by the producer may be used.
**Repairs**
Repairs to the glider should only be undertaken by the manufacturers, or experts recommended by them. In places of minimal stress, small damages and tears up to 3 cm in the sail (but not the seams) may be repaired using our own materials (Rip-Stop) available from us. Please follow the enclosed instructions carefully. Do not replace lines or perform repairs using cellotape, masking tape or similar products.

Please remember that you must only use original "SWING" parts for repairs.

**Cleaning**
Should your canopy ever become soiled, wipe it down with a soft sponge and clean water. If the dirt is ingrained use tepid water and soap flakes. Ensure the canopy is completely dry before storing it away. Any cleaning with aggressive chemicals, or by pressurised or hot water or heat, weakens the fabric, dissolves the surface finish and will render the canopy useless. If in doubt, put up with a few blemishes on your canopy and thus ensure having a safe and secure glider.

**Compatibility with other harnesses**
The "MISTRAL 2" is fastened to two risers and can be used with any two-point harnesses certified GH.

**Artistic Display Flying**
No artistic display flying of any kind is allowed using the SWING-MISTRAL 2.

**Motorised Flying**
The MISTRAL 2 was not tested or certified for use with motors. The use of any kind of engine in conjunction with this glider is therefore not permitted. If you want to use a motor please contact us.

**Winch Starts**
Winch-assisted take-offs are permitted as long as the usual rules are obeyed, i.e.

- The pilot must be in possession of a licence permitting the use of a winch.
- The winch must be suitable for paragliders.
- The winch operator must be in possession of a licence that includes paragliders.

When taking off with a winch, steer the canopy gently and do not overbrake!
INFO
The Luftsportgerätekennblatt is a part of this manual

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