

Experiments Result in Safer, Spin-Resistant Aircraft



Langley Research Center

ICON Aircraft Los Angeles, CA

NASA Technology

- ◆ NASA's General Aviation Spin Program at Langley Research Center devised the first-of-their-kind guidelines for designing more spin-resistant aircraft
- ◆ The program generated knowledge and techniques that now enable safer aircraft designs



Partnership

- ◆ Thanks to NASA's contributions, the Federal Aviation Administration introduced the Part 23 spin-resistance standard in 1991 to assist engineers in evaluating an aircraft's stall and spin characteristics
- ◆ Turning to the Part 23 standard, ICON Aircraft contacted people from the Langley team and then designed a light sport aircraft for consumer recreational flying that provides spin resistance

Benefits

- ◆ ICON's A5 aircraft met the complete set of criteria specified for Part 23 testing
- ◆ More than 1,000 orders have been made for the A5 aircraft
- ◆ Aside from personal use, there is demand from flight schools, flying clubs, resorts, and adventure companies for multiple A5 aircraft