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Grand Prix



♥
Balloons from the Heart of Europe!

FLY COMPETITION BALLOONS

THE GRAND PRIX BALLOONS – BB17GP AND BB20GP

Life is full of compromises and competition ballooning is no exception.

As competitors we want a balloon that will climb like a rocket, fall as straight as a stone and be short enough to fly in narrow bands of wind or hide in a valley. At the same time it must be light but tough, carry artwork well so that we can please our sponsors, and cost as little as possible.

Some balloons offer a number of these features but require so much concentration to fly that it is sometimes difficult to combine the flying with safely achieving the competition task. Other balloons are either very tall or are not suitable for complex artwork.

The Grand Prix from Kubicek Balloons has been designed to combine what we believe are the best features of all the racing balloons in envelopes that can be flown by the average pilot. These reasonably priced envelope is as easy to fly as regular balloons, carry artwork well, fall straight and climb with minimal distortion. Available with a volume of either 1 700 m³ (60 000 cu ft) or 2 000 m³ (70 000 cu ft) the Grand Prix is the balloon to assist the average pilot to achieve above average results and the above average pilot to achieve exceptional results.

Exceptional balloons at reasonable prices!

**Kubicek
BALLOONS**

BALÓNY KUBIČEK spol. s r.o.

Jarní 2a, 614 00 Brno

Czech Republic

Tel.: +420 545 422 620

E-mail: info@kubicekballoons.cz



FAST – PRECISE – SAFE – EASY TO OPERATE

These are some of the reasons why our Grand Prix balloons are unlike their competitors. You are welcome to our designer's kitchen to discover what is cooked under the dish-cover!

THE TOP OF THE ENVELOPE

The top of the envelope has a natural shape so that the fabric stresses are at a minimum and the majority of the load is taken on the load tapes. This means that, in the unfortunate event of a basket hitting the top of the envelope, damage is much less likely than it would be if there was high stress on this top fabric.

This natural shape at the top of the envelope also helps to keep the centre of gravity quite high in the envelope. As a result the envelope does not bank (deflect from the vertical axis) in a fast climb.

In addition this natural shaped top helps to reduce the total height of the envelope allowing it to sneak along in narrow bands of wind that taller balloons will miss.

THE LOWER PART OF THE ENVELOPE

In the lower part of the envelope, where the air is cooler and the loads less, the panels are flat and the sides of the balloon are steep (the steepest of any of the racing balloons). Together with very sharp angle of the mouth (60 deg!) this combination offers excellent aerodynamics and permits rapid straight descents with minimal distortion.

DIAMETER OF THE MOUTH

A relatively large mouth and long flying wires ensure that the mouth of the envelope stays open in the descent and it also helps to prevent the 'banana shape' that many competition balloons adopt in a rapid descent.

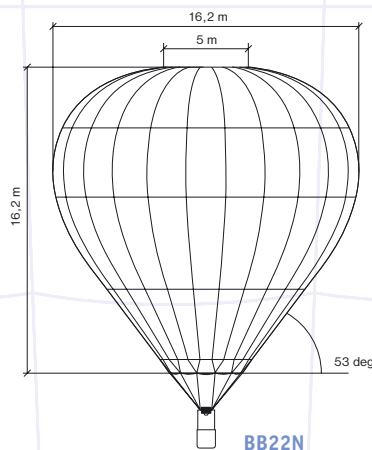
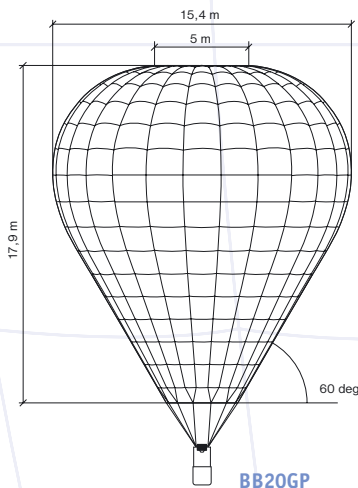
VOLUMES

Available in a choice of sizes; the 1700 m³ (60 000 cu ft) will suit the pilot who often flies solo and the 2000 m³ (20 000 cu ft) the pilot who regularly flies with either a co-pilot or an observer.

WEIGHT

Most of our competitors have to use a heavy weight fabric in the top of their envelopes because of either high stress or occasional overheating. Because a Grand Prix envelope is built from heat tolerant Polyester and the top of the envelope has low stresses there is no need to use a heavy weight fabric and our envelopes are therefore both tough and light.

COMPETITON AND STANDARD BALLOON - COMPARED



ENVELOPE SIZE	BB20GP	BB22N
Volume [m ³] / [cu ft]	2 000 / 70 000	2 200 / 77 000
No. of Gores [pc]	24	24
Height [m]	17,9	16,2
Equator Diameter [m]	15,4	16,2
Mouth Diameter [m]	3,8	4,0
Angle [deg]	60	53
Vent Hole Parachute [m]	5,0	5,0
Weight [kg]	90	95
Maximum achieved (recorded) performance	+ 10 / - 12 m/s	+ 4 / - 6,5 m/s

