

Name(s)

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2017 PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Number

Angelo Giangiorgi; Pierce Nelson J0110 Project Title Which Design of Winglet Best Prevents Wingtip Vortices? Abstract **Objectives/Goals** Our objective was to see which design of winglet best prevents wingtip vortices and also the efficiency of planes by increasing lift and decreasing drag. **Methods/Materials** Wind tunnel at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, 3 different aluminum winglets, an aluminum sting, and a Force-Balance, tested the three different wings at 3 different angles of attack and 3 different wind speeds. **Results** Different wings were placed in a wind tunnel and the lift and drag numbers were recorded. The tests were repeated after notches were made to help with angle of attack to reduce uncontrolled variables. **Conclusions/Discussion** The repeated tests showed that the winglet with only the top was the best compared to the wing with no winglets. It was concluded that the Top-Only winglet has the best lift-to-drag ratio. **Summary Statement** As measured in the wind tunnel with lift and drag, we showed that the Top Only winglet has the best lift:drag ratio. **Help Received** We had the help of Dr. James Paul of Airflow Sciences, and Dr. Kevin Jones, who works at the Naval Postgraduate School.