



---

## GOLDEN PLATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NOVA GORICA

### IVO BOSCAROL

*At its meeting on 23 March 2020, the Governing Board of the University of Nova Gorica adopted a decision that Ivo Boscarol is to be awarded the Golden Plate of the University of Nova Gorica for constructive participation in the research and the promotion of the build-up of the University of Nova Gorica infrastructure.*

Mr Ivo Boscarol commenced his entrepreneurial career in aviation in 1987, upon registering the Pipistrel brand and establishing a company engaged in the production of powered hang gliders. It was the first company of its kind in the Balkan region. Ivo Boscarol drew inspiration from his fascination for aviation from his youth, when he was engaged in sport flying and achieved many great successes, such as seven national champion titles and national speed records. In addition to the company management, he was also engaged in aircraft design. The Pipistrel company soon became recognisable as a manufacturer and exporter of innovative and reliable powered hang gliders. The company expanded rapidly and teamed up with top aeronautical engineers who, under the leadership of Mr Ivo Boscarol, drew up plans for several brand new ultralight aircraft that quickly attracted buyers from all over the world, as a result of innovative solutions.

In addition to commercially successful aircraft, Mr Ivo Boscarol systematically focused Pipistrel towards development activities; in 2007, he established his own research group, which is engaged with new aviation technology solutions. Mr Ivo Boscarol is also passionate about care for the environment, which guides him in planning the future of Pipistrel. He has focused a lot of effort on the development of electric aircraft, and won the NASA Challenge Award with Taurus G4 innovative solutions. Pipistrel produced the world's first electric motor glider, the first four-seat hybrid aircraft, and the first four-seat passenger aircraft powered by zero-emission hydrogen fuel cell propulsion. In 2011, the President of the Republic of Slovenia decorated Mr Ivo Boscarol with the Golden Order of Merit.

The search for alternative energy sources for aircraft encouraged Mr Ivo Boscarol to connect with the Laboratory of Organic Matter Physics - University of Nova Gorica, in the implementation of the "Photocell application on the composite surface of the Taurus Electro aircraft development technology" project, which connected Pipistrel researchers, who focused on the design and manufacture of devices for applying organic semiconductors to large surfaces by printing, and the researchers from the University of Nova Gorica, who explored the behaviour of organic solar cells on flexible surfaces such

---

as wings. In addition to research in the field of alternative energy sources, the cooperation between the two partners also included research and design of new aircraft, which led to the creation of the brand new four-seat Panthera aircraft. Mr Ivo Boscarol became aware of the power of knowledge and research in the early stages; therefore, as an enthusiast of Ajdovščina, he approached to the construction of the University of Nova Gorica building at Vipavska 11c without hesitation, and helped achieve its rapid construction with a substantial donation.

---