



American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics
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Aerospace News

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Sister Sections since 2007

l'Association Aéronautique et Astronautique de France (3AF)
3AF MP (www.3af-mp.fr) *Philippe Mairet*
AIAA Houston Section (www.aiaahouston.org) *Douglas Yazell*

AIAA Houston Section International Activities Committee (IAC) mirrors the AIAA IAC.

Toulouse Nuts (the restored 1944 TF-51 Mustang) in Houston in 2017 The 2016 Oshkosh AirVenture Grand Champion

This [link](#) leads to a Collings Foundation web page describing this amazing airplane.

As noted above, the French sister section of AIAA Houston Section is 3AF Midi-Pyrénées. The largest city in their territory is Toulouse France, the city mentioned in the name of this airplane, Toulouse Nuts.

I conclude the name Toulouse Nuts refers to the flights of this airplane in the Toulouse area of France in the World War 2 era. For English-speaking people, Toulouse Nuts certainly has meaning as Two Loose Nuts, a reference to the two-person crew of this 1944 pilot trainer airplane.

A loose nut (on a bolt) might cause mechanical problems during flight. A nut can refer to a crazy person, too; a friendly insult.



Image credit: Michael Bludworth. Used with permission. Mr. Bludworth published (in his Flickr album for this event) a few photographs and videos of this March 13, 2017, Collings Foundation event at Ellington Airport in Houston Texas USA. This photograph shows the fully restored 1944 TF-51 Mustang (N551CF). Mr. Bludworth is a lecturer and expert associated with the 1940 Air Terminal Museum at Hobby Airport in Houston Texas USA. The museum is an AIAA Historic Aerospace Site, and the big brass AIAA plaque was part of a 2009 ceremony at the museum. The plaque is displayed nicely in a display case inside the museum.

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