

Bloch 220

The Bloch 220 was a French airliner in the same class as the Douglas DC-2/3. Only 17 were produced and they flew in Air France service before and after World War II. During the war they flew in French and German colours.

Development of a modern all-metal airliner that could serve on France's European network began in the early 1930s. The prototype first flew in December 1935 and a further 16 were manufactured. They flew on Air France's European routes, the first service by the type on the Paris-London route occurred on 27 March 1938, cutting flight time to 1 hour 15 minutes. During World War II most Bloch 220s flew under Vichy and Free French and German colours. After the war they were re-engined with Wright Cyclone R-1820 engines and again flew on Air France's European routes. The last one flew in about 1950.

This model represents F-AOHJ flying with Air France in 1938.

Data: *Engine* two Gnome-Rhone 14N-16/17 radial engines of 682kW (915hp) each. *Wing span* 22.82m (74ft 10½in). *Length* 19.6m (63ft 1¾in). *Gross weight* 9500kg (20,944lb). *Maximum speed* 350km/h (205mph). *Range* 6759km (4 200 miles). *Accommodation* 16 passengers. *Crew* 3.

F-RSIN 1/144 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in June 2006.



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