

SNCASE 161 Languedoc

The SNCASE Languedoc was designed in France in the late 1930s but did not enter service until 1946 due to the war. It proved to be very unreliable and unpopular in airline service but flew with the French Navy until 1964.

The SNCASE Languedoc started as the Bloch 161 which made its first flight on 15 December 1939. It was ordered into production by the Vichi Government in December 1941 but work slowed under German occupation, and the first new aeroplane did not make its first flight until August 1945. One hundred Languedocs were manufactured, almost all being used in France by military services and Air France. They began service with Air France in May 1946 but proved to be very unreliable. Some were refitted with Pratt and Whitney engines but they were still very unpopular with passengers and were withdrawn from airline service in mid 1952.

This model represents F-BATD in service with Air France in the late 1940s.

Data: early post-war airliner. *Engines* four Gnome-Rhône 14N 44/45 radial engines of 1,150 kW each *Wing span* 29.39m. *Length* 24.26m. *Gross weight* 20,577kg. *Maximum speed* 440km/h. *Range* 3200km. *Typical payload* 33 passengers. *Crew* 5.

F-Rsin 1/144 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in May 2012.



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