

Sud Ouest SO.6000J Triton

The Sud Ouest SO.6000 Triton was the first jet aeroplane to be designed and built in France. It had been designed in secret during the German occupation and the first one flew in 1946, with a German jet engine.

Development of the Triton began in occupied France as a secret project. At the end of the war the French government was keen to bring France into the jet age and ordered six Tritons, to be powered by a French jet engine. However, engine development was slow so a Junkers Jumo 004B engine was installed instead. The first flight occurred on 11 November 1946 but the Triton was very underpowered so following ones were fitted instead with Rolls Royce Nene engines. This necessitated giving the Triton side air intakes rather than the nose intake of the prototype. Unlike other first generation jet aircraft which were single seaters, the Triton was also a two seat trainer which gave France a good start in jet powered aviation.

This model represents the first Triton around the time of its maiden flight in November 1946.

Data: experimental jet trainer. *Engines* one Junkers Jumo 004B turbojet engine of 8.83kN thrust *Wing span* 9.96m. *Length* 10.41m. *Loaded weight* 5,900kg. *Maximum speed (with Nene engine)* 955km/h. *Crew* 2.

Mach 2 1:72 kit completed by Leigh Edmonds in July 2015.



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