

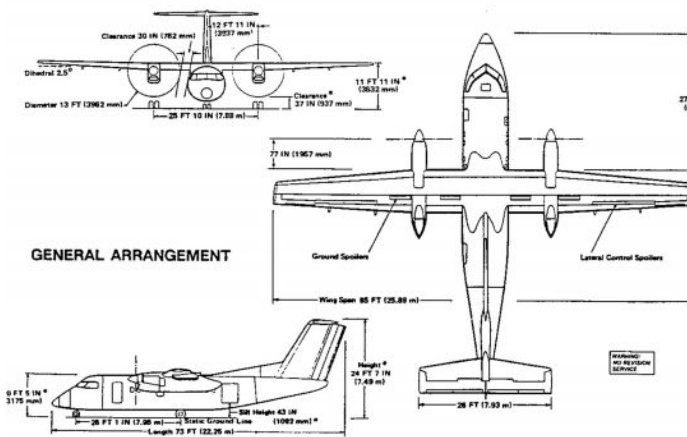
De Havilland Canada DASH 8 "Dutch Coast Guard"

INTRODUCTION

The De Havilland Canada company developed a passenger aircraft for about 40 passengers in the 1970s. The type designation was DHC-8 but it soon became known as the DASH 8. The first aircraft flew Summer of 1983. The DHC 8-100 from 1984 has a fuselage cabin for about 38 passengers and first had 2 Pratt & Whitney PW120 engines but later the PW121. The DHC-8-200 series has the same fuselage as the -100 series but more powerful PW123 engines. The -300 series had a 3.43-metre longer fuselage and could carry more passengers. An even longer fuselage had the -400 series. More than 1200 DHC-8 aircraft have been built in different variants, including military or patrol variants.

After a pair of DASH 8-106 were operated in The Netherlands Antilles it was decided that for Dutch Coast Guard tasks over the North Sea another pair would be required. They replaced the Coast Guard Dornier Do-228 and arrived in the Summer of 2022. The DASH aircraft are leased for 10 years from the Canadian "Provincial Aerospace" (PAL). Commercial parties provide pilots and technical support. The observers are people from Dutch Customs, Rijkswaterstaat and Military Police.

Registration were first C-GCFK, later PH-CGD and C-FCGE, later PH-CGE.



MODEL KITS

In 1/144 scale DASH 8-100 kits are Eastern Express 144132 and Sasquatch SQ-60 resin.

In 1/72 scale there is just an old and rare Hobbycraft Canada DASH 8 kit (also an old Platz release). It is a basic kit but the general dimensions are OK for the -100 series; the Hobbycraft kit window rows are inaccurate, the modeller can fill the gaps and use the decals. Other kit improvements can also be done by the specialist modeller like shaping a pronounced wing-fuselage root fairing. The wing span near the tips can be expanded 3 millimetre at each side. The

main gear leg points can be moved 7 millimetre more forward. Check out the open gear doors configuration: forward main gear doors hinge at port on both nacelles. Front nose doors are often closed.

The 2 radar bulges below the fuselage must be made from scratch. A way to make these is to glue several layers of plastic card in a rough bulge shape and than sand smooth.

A pair of long SLAR rods are seen on the planes and can be added at the rear lower fuselage sides with rod.

A camera pod is also seen below the cockpit nose and a fairing below the tail.

At both port and starboard sides a larger "second" window is seen in the forward fuselage. The airframe has also a few blade antennas.

DECAL SYSTEM and APPLICATION

The decal sheet has ONE continuous print film, so EACH decal needs to be cut out with fine scissors. No other prior laser printed decal preparation is needed. Each cut out decal can be applied as usual after soaking it a short while in water. Decals are EXTREMELY THIN, so slide off from the wet backing sheet on the model surface. Do not use tweezers! They will fold doubled!

The badges have black Latin wording, these are separate decals to applied on top of the lower curl of each badge decal.

After all decals have been applied, finish the model with your preferred final gloss or semi-matt varnish coats. This will also protect the decals.

PAINTING AND DETAILS

The paint scheme is basically gloss white.

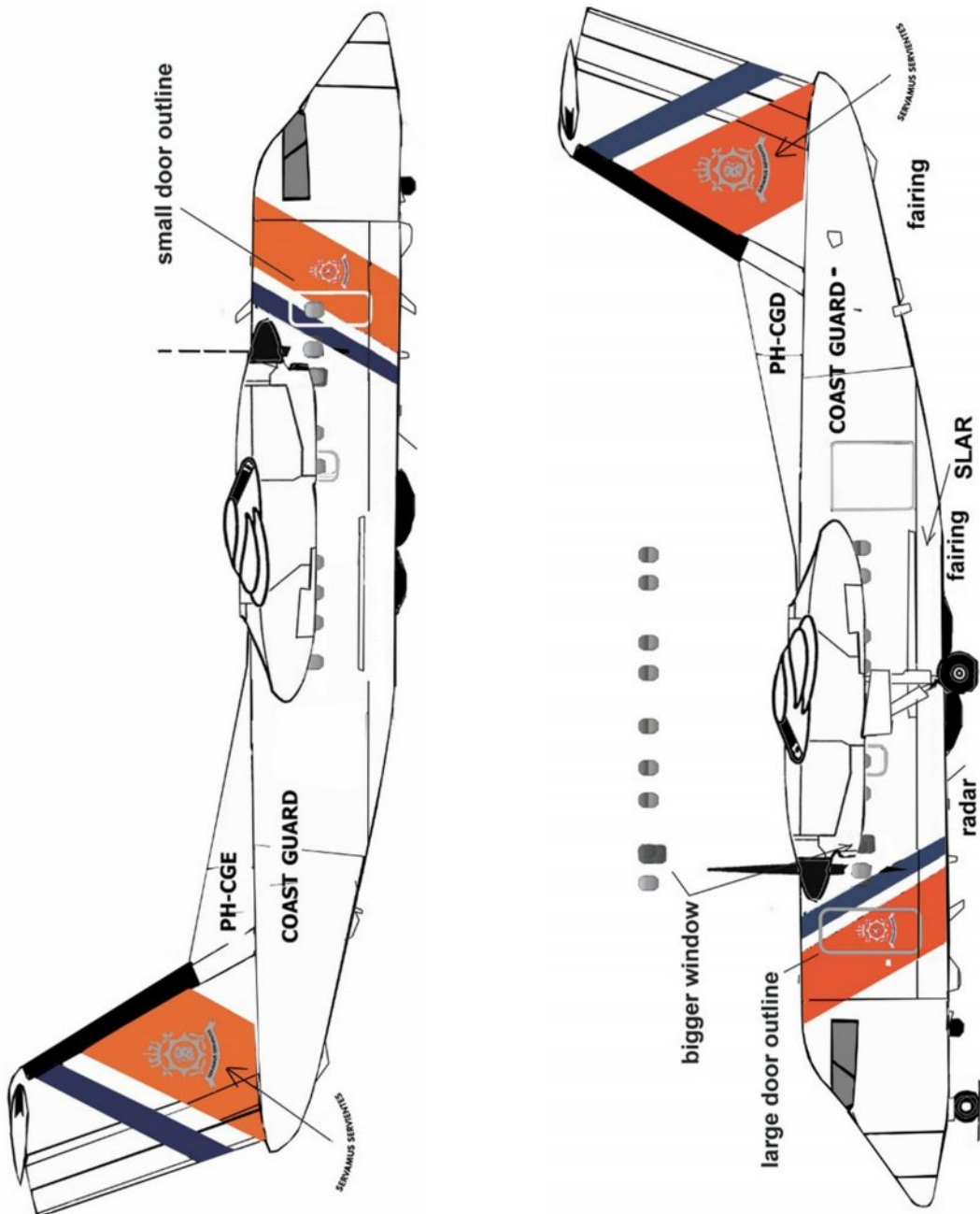
Though colourful bands are supplied, it may be better to airbrush the red-orange bands. Use than decals as pattern for masking. The blue band decals can be used with a white band in between. The approximate colours are red-orange Revell Aqua 30 and the blue Gunze Sangyo Mr.Hobby H15.

The Dutch Coast Guard badges and door outlines are separate decals. At doors, apply the door decals first, than any badges. At the upper wing flap areas are port and starboard coloured panel decals. No registration was seen on wing (but decal is provided just in case).

Leading edges of wing inboard the nacelles, outboard wing, tail and horizontal tail plane: flat black.

The propeller spinners are black. Propeller blades are black with yellow tips.

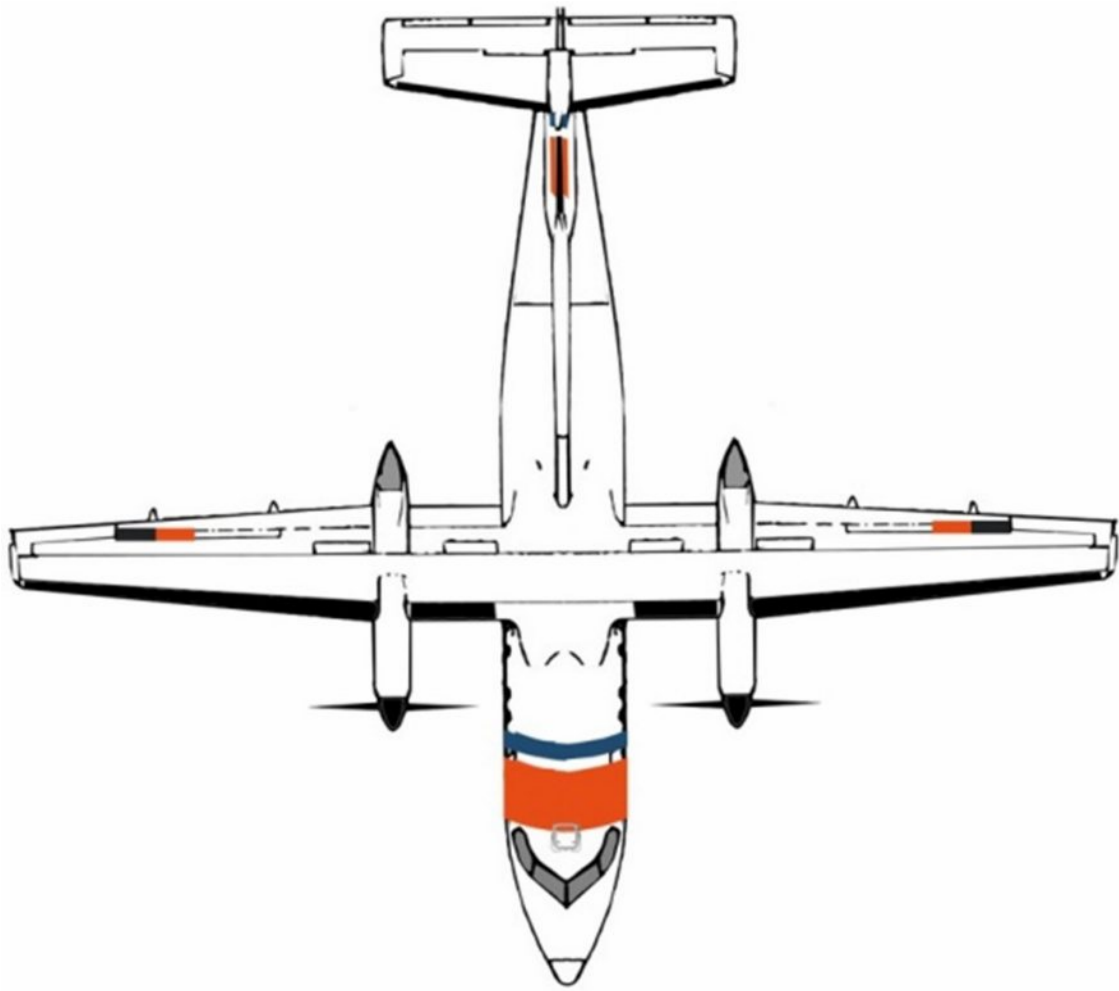
Exhausts are burned metal.



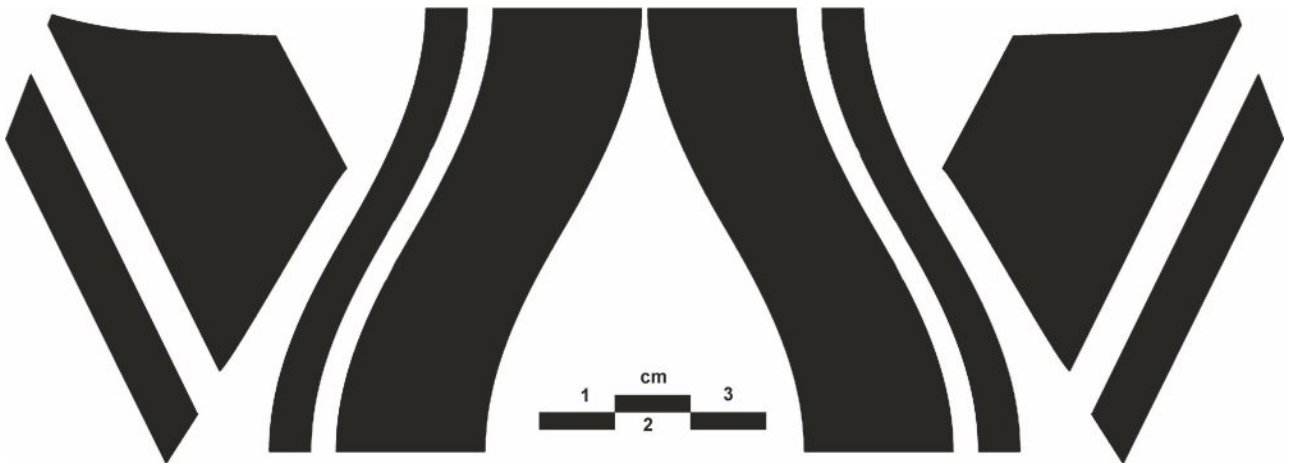
TIP: on internet it is easy to find photos of these planes, search the "code / registration".

Please visit website: www.aircraftinplastic.com





Note panels on upper wing outboard flaps. Emergency exit decal at cockpit roof. No registration seen on wing.



TEMPLATE 1/72 TO MAKE MASKS

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