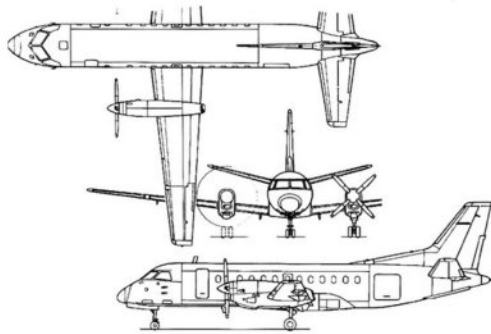


## Saab 340 commuter **EZ AIR** (Dutch Antilles)

The Saab 340 is a Swedish twin-engine turboprop aircraft designed and initially produced by Saab AB and Fairchild Aircraft. First flight was January 1983. It seats 30-36 passengers and over 450 aircraft have been manufactured and used by airlines all over the World. Overall length is 19,73 m and wing span 21,44 m.

EZ AIR is a regional airline in the Dutch Antilles in the Caribbean that flies mainly between the islands of Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao. Their Saab 340B fleet had US registrations: N304AG and N417XJ. They were flown in a 34 passenger layout from July 2021. (airline has been renamed to Z AIR in 2023).



### KITS

In 1/72 scale there is vacuform kit from BROPLAN (in several releases with different decals) and a resin RVHP kit (also in different releases).

### VACUFORM ASSEMBLY TIPS

Making a vacuform model such as from BROPLAN is not as straight forward as an injection moulded kit. Before removing the parts from the vacuform sheets, mark the cornered outlines with a waterproof black marker. This will help to avoid sanding off too much material. Score with a sharp modelling knife around main parts and break off the surplus plastic. Sand parts wet and constantly check for not sanding too much off. Using double sided tape during wet sanding the parts may help as well.

Add re-enforcement strips inside the long fuselage edges to get stronger joints. Inside the wing it may help to add a spar to get more strength; let the spar run through the fuselage to both wing halves.

For the fuselage it may be difficult to make the clear cabin windows. An alternative is that the modeller may close up the windows, fill smooth and later suggest the windows with the provided decals on this sheet. Door outline decals are also provided.

### RESIN KIT ASSEMBLY TIPS

Any resin kit parts needs sawing and sanding. IT IS REQUIRED to wear a face mask, nitrile hand gloves and sand under water as resin dust may cause allergic reactions and damage your health. Glue resin parts with 2-component glue or thick super glue.

### PAINTING EZ AIR SAAB 340

Paint the overall model of the EZ AIR livery first gloss white. Than mask the areas to paint the blue areas at the tail. Though the red tail is provided as decal, it may be better to paint the upper red tail area as well.

Use the "curved swirls" decals as guide for the masking pattern. After painting add the "swirl" decals.

On the wing, stabilizer and tail are de-icing leading edges. Though decals for these are on the sheet it may look better when masked and painted mat black.

On the wing are walkway lines, these are provided as decals.

The propeller spinners are bright chrome. The propeller blades are black with yellow tips.

The engine exhausts are burned metal, a mix of brown and silver paint will do nicely.

NOTE that the various smaller decals are numbered and shown in the sketches. Some spare decals are also on the sheet.

### DECALS SYSTEM

The laser printed decal sheet has ONE continuous print film, so EACH decal needs to be cut out with fine scissors. No other prior decal preparation is needed.

Note that a decal that contains a white section is often split in two sections. To apply the full decal marking, first set the white decal section at correct position and on top of that the coloured section. On the decals sheet you will often see an "arrow" to indicate this way of application (on white surfaces, the white section is optional).

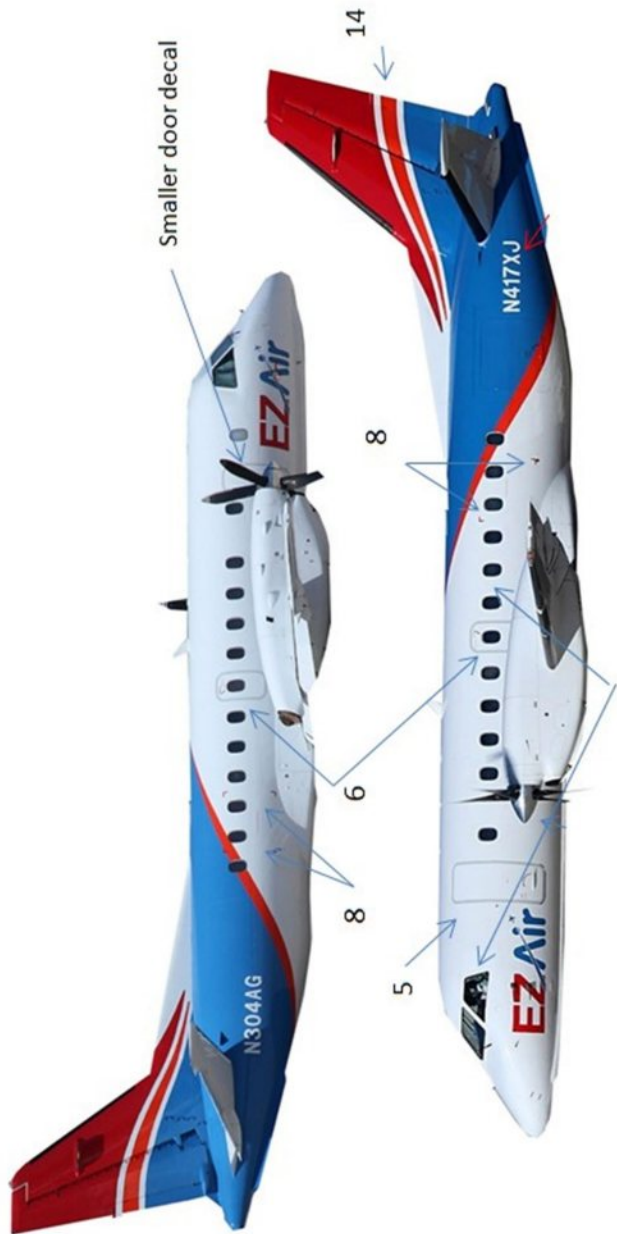
Each cut out decal can be applied as usual after soaking it a short while in water. Decals are EXTREMELY THIN, so slide off from the wet backing sheet on the model surface. Do not use tweezers! They will fold doubled!

Some tiny white borders may appear at a particular decal. Cut these off with fine scissors or over paint.

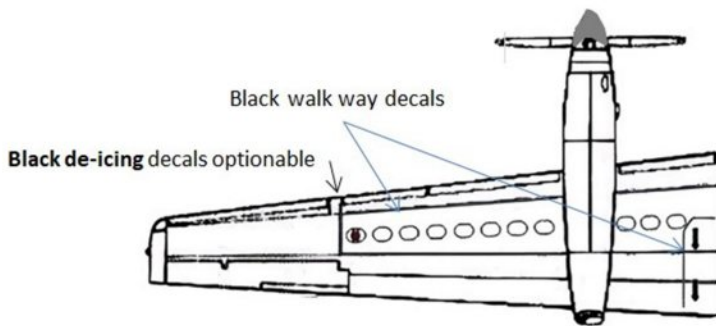
After all decals have been applied, finish the model with your preferred final gloss or semi-matt varnish coats. This will also protect the decals.

### REFERENCES:

Through an internet search with the registration codes ... dozens of photos.



A big thank you to Mr. Jarreth Davelaar for photos and checking aircraft colours and details at Curaçao EZ Air facility. The airline is now known as "Z Air".



Please visit website: [www.aircraftinplastic.com](http://www.aircraftinplastic.com)