

De Havilland Twin Otter "Dutch Antilles"

Winair (WIA) St.Maarten (latest scheme)

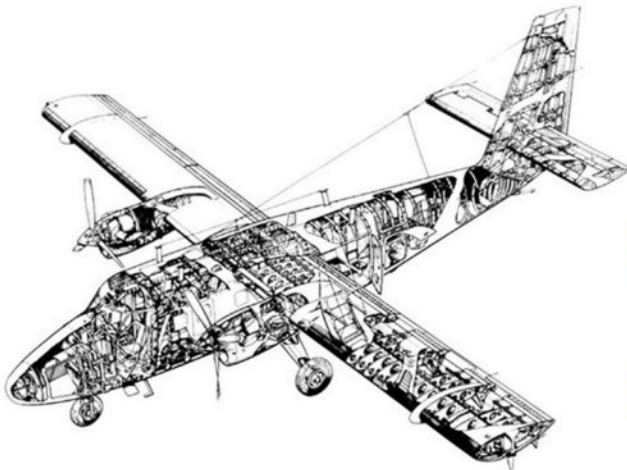
The De Havilland Canada DHC-6 Twin Otter was designed as a 19 passenger STOL (Short Take-off and Landing) utility aircraft at De Havilland Canada. First flight was May 1965 and it was fitted with Pratt and Whitney PT-6A engines which later proved to be reliable engines.

The Twin Otter could be fitted with wheels, skis as well as large floats. Some different noses could be fitted that could be turned open and usually had electrical systems fitted and could accommodate some luggage.

It was an excellent aircraft that could be flown in difficult circumstances and by bush pilots. The type was widely used in particularly North America.

Nearly a 1,000 Twin Otters were manufactured (including "Viking air" made aircraft after 2006).

Wing span 65 ft (19,81 m)
Length -100 version 49 ft 6 in (15,09 m) and -300/400 version 51 ft 9 in (15,77 m).



KITS

In 1/72 scale Matchbox released in 1983 a Twin Otter kit #40127 that was also released later by Revell Germany kit #04901 / #03954. In the kit parts for the short -100 nose and the longer -300/400 nose is provided.

DECALS SYSTEM

The laser printed decal sheet has ONE continuous print film, so EACH decal needs cutting 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:

Internet websites:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/De_Havilland_Canada_DHC-6_Twin_Otter

See for a few Twin Otter models website:

<https://aircraftinplastic.com/models/twin-otter/twin-otter-1.htm>

On internet it is very easy to find photos by searching twin otter + registration PJ-...

For early WIA paint schemes, please see aircraftinplastic.com AIP-122 decals sheet.

Dutch Antilles

Six islands in the Caribbean are part of the Kingdom of The Netherlands since first Dutch settlers arrived from The Netherlands/ Holland and a Colony was established in the 17th Century. The Dutch West Indies Trading Company was set up.

The islands are Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao in the Leeward Antilles off the coast of Venezuela and Saba, St.Eustatius ("Statia") and St.Maarten in the Windward Antilles. On the Windward Antilles the official languages are Dutch and English and on the lower Leeward islands Dutch and Papiamentu.

The islands after the Second World War were referred to as The Netherlands Antilles. In 1986 Aruba got bigger independence as "country" within the Kingdom and in 2010 Curaçao and St.Maarten also became "countries" as well and Bonaire, Saba and St.Eustatius became special Dutch Municipalities.

Aviation in the Dutch Antilles started already in the 1930s with a large role of Dutch **KLM** Airlines that started local flight services on routes between the islands and neighbouring regions. The main airport was Hato at Curaçao.

The Dutch Antilles were important during the Second World War as oil refineries on Aruba and Curaçao provided refined oil products and particularly aircraft fuel for the Allies. These were shipped with tankers that were under constant threat of German U-boats.

Particularly after the Second World War KLM expanded services through their West Indies Division (KLM-WIB*). But several airlines were also started by local Antillean business men and island Governments.

* KLM-WIB decals are also available, check website



Winair (short for Windward Islands Airways company) is the regional airline based in St.Maarten, Dutch Antilles. It was founded in 1961 by Georges Greaux and Hippolyte Ledee.

It still flies small regional commuter aircraft mostly between the North East Caribbean Windward islands. Headquarters are at Princess Juliana International Airport at St.Maarten.

The airline and its pilots are specialized in short take-off and landing operations as many islands have a small runway and mountains. Flights are made also to the World's shortest commercial airport runway at Juancho E. Yrausquin Airport on Saba, a Dutch volcano island.

The fleet has small aircraft including De Havilland Twin Otters.



later/ current island flags



Winair (WIA) latest schemes

Scheme [1] PJ-WII

Twin Otter DHC-6-300 c/n 682 was produced in 1980. With registration PJ-WII it entered service March 2012 with Winair at St.Maarten (WIA).

It has the long nose and in one of the port rear doors, a window is not present.

It has a complex but very attractive paint scheme of white and blue with also red and thin cheatlines and curved yellow cheatlines.

Blue tail, horizontal stabilizers and nacelles. A large area is also blue on the upper wing. At the lower wing it is probably black. The wing tips are gloss red.

Scheme starboard and port is symmetrical.

Black anti-gare panel.

RECOMMENDED COLOURS:

- White about RAL 9016
- Blue about RAL 5002
- Red about RAL 3001 signal red
- Yellow about RAL 1023 (decals)

RECOMMENDED WAY OF PAINTING:

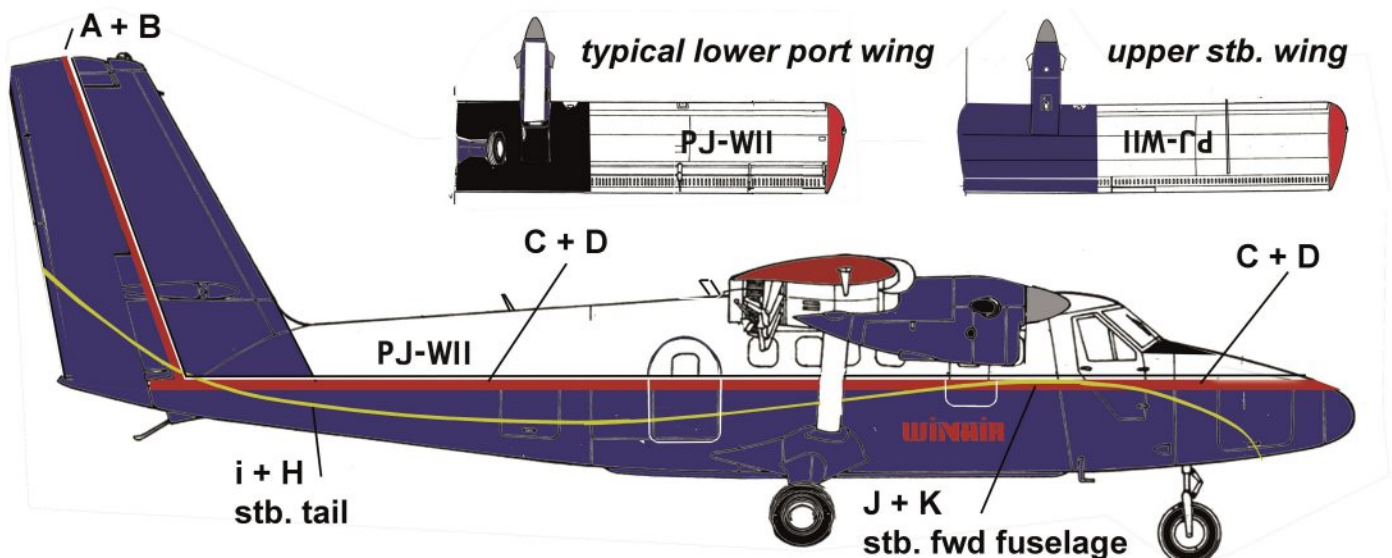
- 1- paint first overall gloss white
- 2- mask the white areas with tape carefully to cover also the horizontal red cheatline on the fuselage.
- 3- paint the blue areas on lower fuselage, tail, stabilizers, nacelles and upper areas of wing.
- 4- mask the wing tips and paint red.

Remove all masking tapes and clean the model. Ensure gloss surfaces for better decal adherence.

HOW TO APPLY THE DECALS:

- 1/ set the white stripe base decals [A] at starboard tail and [F] at port tail.
- 2/ set the white fuselage base decals stripes [C] horizontal, trim to fit on both starboard and port.
- 3/ set on white base decals the red fuselage decals stripes [D], trim to fit. Note a tiny back edge above the red stripe contained in the decals.
- 4/ set on white base decals now the red tail stripes [B] at starboard and [G] at port. Note a tiny back edge along the red stripe.
- 5/ set the base white curved lines [i] at starboard rear fuselage and then set and align forward on nose the curved white [J]. Trim length as needed.
- 6/ set similar curved white lines at port.
- 7/ on the white base curved lines the curved yellow decals at starboard fuselage, [H] on tail and then set and align on forward nose curved yellow [K]. Trim length as needed.
- 8/ set similar on the white base curved lines the curved yellow decals at port [L] and [M].
- 9/ set the decals for door outlines over the fuselage decals.
- 10/ set on the fuselage the **red WINAIR** title white base decals first and then on top of those the red WINAIR titles.

Small black registrations on rear fuselage and large ones on lower port wing and reversed on the upper starboard wing.



COMPLETION:

The propellers have chrome metal spinners, dark grey blades with white-grey-white tips.

Add a small black anti-glare panel in front of wind shield.



Scheme [2] PJ-WII

This same Twin Otter c/n 682 PJ-WII has now **yellow** Winair titles on the fuselage and on the tail. And the nacelles have a white lower area and red website markings.

Apply remainder of paint scheme and decals otherwise as described for scheme [1].

On the port nose the name "Jose Dorinoy" is applied in yellow.

Optional is to add a 50 years celebration logo on the tail on both port and starboard. Again set first the white base decal and then the logo.

For all the titles set first each base white title decal and on top of that the yellow title decal.

Scheme [3] PJ-WIS

Twin Otter DH-6-300 c/n 447 Y19 with registration PJ-WIS is the sister plane with an exact similar scheme as scheme [2]. The nacelles have a white lower area and red website markings. It was leased by Winair April 2010 until July 2014.

Apply remainder of paint scheme and decals otherwise as described for scheme [1].

Compose the PJ-WIS registrations combining PJ-WI + S decals.

Optional is again to add a 50 years celebration logo on the tail on both port and starboard. Again set first the white base decal and then the logo.

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