

McDonnell Douglas KDC-10 RNLAf "KLu" T-235 low vis. (various scales possible)

INTRODUCTION

The Royal Netherlands Air Force "KLu" (Koninklijke Luchtmacht) used 2 second hand KDC-10 tanker-transport and a single DC-10 transport.



The KDC-10 was a modified McDonnell Douglas DC-10-30. They were former airliners from Martinair and converted to tanker-transport with fuel tanks and got a special refuelling boom that used cameras in stead of a human tail boom operator at the rear fuselage station. It is called the "Remote aerial Refuelling Operating" RARO system. KLu KDC-10 codes were the T-235 and T-264 and they were used until 2021.

A single DC-10-30CF transport arrived later in 2004 (with another one used for spares). KLu code was T-255 and it was used until 2014.

The aircraft were operated by KLu Royal Netherlands Air Force no.334 squadron.

Several KLu paint schemes were applied over the years.

In order to save costs for modellers, separate decals sheets are available so the modeller can pick the one scheme desired

REFERENCES

For more information visit the IPMS.NL website:

<https://www.ipms.nl/artikelen/nedmil-luchtvaart/vliegtuigen-m/vliegtuigen-m-mcdon-dc10>

On internet it is easy to find photos.

MODEL KITS

In **1/72** scale:

KC-10A kit from Anigrand resin and Aircraft in Miniatures/Transport Wings.

In **1/144** scale:

AMP has released a KC-10 kit. (or modify airliner model of a DC-10-30 such as from Eastern Express, Revell, Airfix, AMP/ Karaya).

A model for the Royal Netherlands Air Force KDC-10 needs modifications as the tank refuelling RARO system has a different fairing for the cameras; the tail boom is standard.

The window patterns are very similar to the DC-10-30, use the kit decals or the (open) kit windows.

DECAL SYSTEM and APPLICATION

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 parts. 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.

PAINTING AND DECALS

The decals are for the KDC-10-30CF, T-235, c/n 46956, named JAN SCHEFFER in a later applied grey low visibility scheme. Note that the scheme is similar port and starboard.

Choice of markings with white titles or dark "tyre black" titles with otherwise similar paint scheme.

The later grey colour scheme is *neutral gray* Federal Standard FS36173 on the upper fuselage, vertical tail, upper surfaces of stabilizers and upper wing surfaces.

The lower surfaces are *light gray* FS36375 and include lower fuselage, lower stabilizers, entire lower wing and entire wing nacelles.

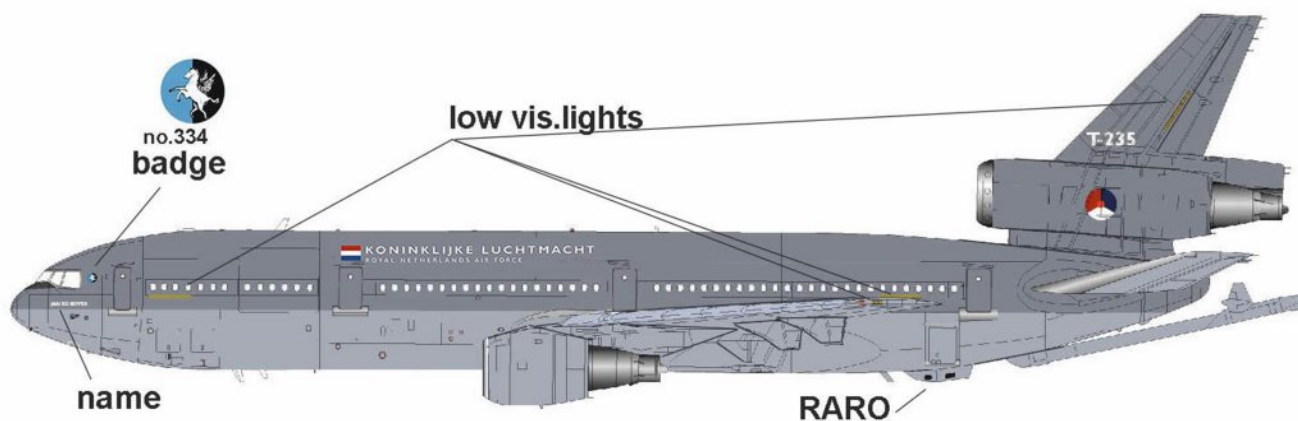
Leading edges of wing, vertical tail, stabilizers, tail engine air inlet and leading edges of wing nacelles are dull *aluminium*. The engine exhausts are burned metal.

On the upper wing the centre wing area between the spars are "Alodine" gray (approx. FS36320). A black anti-glare panel is situated in front of the cockpit glazing. Squadron badges behind the cockpit (both sides).

Note this scheme has slightly different KLu roundels than standard with a "lighter roundel blue" approx. RAL 5017. These are on the decals sheet.

Wing has large codes and on the pair of rear nose gear doors smaller codes are located with service markings.

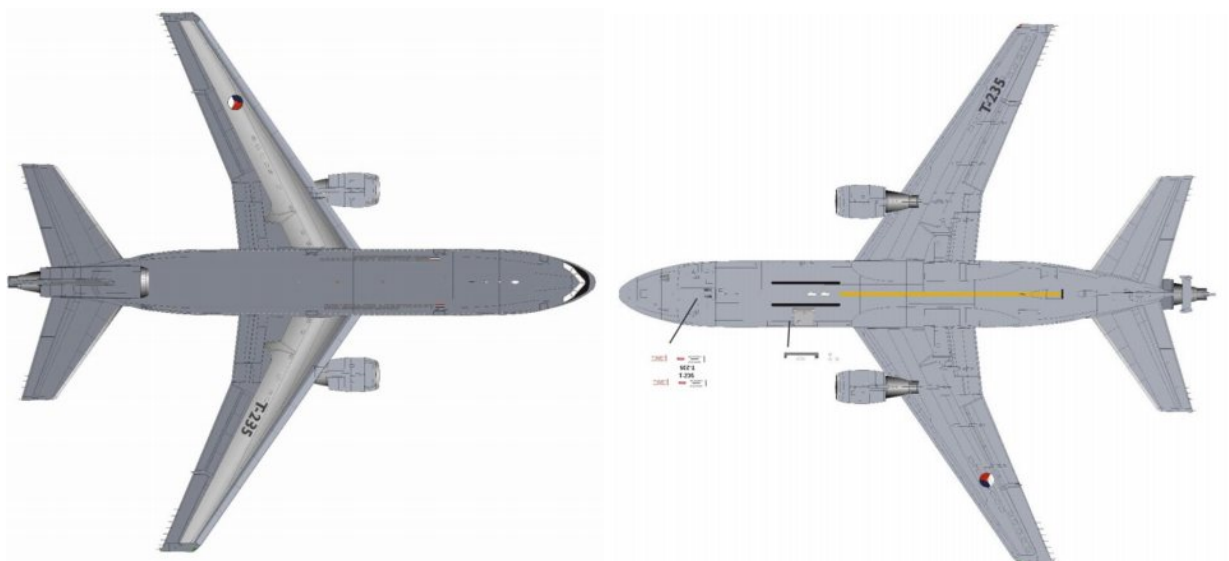
The fuselage belly has a long yellow "guidance strip". Installed were 2 low visibility light strips on fuselage below window row, 1 on vertical tail and 1 at each wing tip. The vis.decals are on both starboard and port sides.



KDC-10-30CF, "T-235" , named JAN SCHEFER grey with white titles (port and starboard similar)



same plane KDC-10-30CF, "T-235" , name JAN SCHEFFER grey now with dark tyre black titles



STANDARD UPPER AND LOWER VIEWS

Please visit website: www.aircraftinplastic.com

