

Imperial College 10x5 Low Speed Wind Tunnel

Location: London

Designation: Low Speed Closed Return

Owner(s):

Imperial College Aeronautics, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2AZ

Test Section 1 Size: 3.04m x 1.52m x 20 m 3.41:1 contraction ratio. Max speed: 41 m/s.

Test Section 2 (Return) Size: 5.7 m x 2.8 m x 18 m

Max. speed: 12 m/s.

Operational Status: Active

Number and Type of Staff:

Scientific: n/k

Technical Support: 1 – 5 technicians

Test support:

Fully equipped workshop for wind tunnel model design, CNC 4-axis mill, CNC 3-axis mill, CNC Lathe, CNC etching and cutting, a range of rapid prototyping manufacture and modification capability, 3D CAD support and drafting.

Performance:

Mach Number: 0.14 (max)
Maximum Flow Speed: 41 m/s
Reynolds No: 3.1x10⁶/m (max)
Total Pressure: Ambient

Dynamic Pressure: up to 1.2 kN/m² **Total Temperature**: Ambient

Turbulence intensity: 0.15% or better

Run Time: Continuous **Typical Recharge Time**: n/a.

Testing Capabilities:

Model Support: internal 6-component sting mounted balance (20° yaw range turntable).

Underfloor turntable +20deg yaw

Rolling Road: 2.1m x 1.8m rubber/fabric belt, 41m/s, water cooled, variable profile belt suction system, twin variable speed boundary layer flow-control ahead of road.

Data Acquisition: National Instruments multichannel ADC, 64 channel Pressure

scanning.

Outputs: Forces & moments, pressure,

velocity (LDA, LDV, PIV).

Flow visualisation: Video, surface fluorescent oilflow, smoke wand.

Specialist Rigs:

- Air blowing: 10 bar max pressure.
- Fully automated Road Vehicle testing to 50% scale models.
- Automated Traverse system
- Model motion control system (automated pitch, manual roll and yaw)
- Full atmospheric boundary layer simulation capability.