

# Cranfield University 8'x 4' Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel

## LS3

**Location:** Cranfield, Bedfordshire

**Designation:** Low Speed  
Open Return

**Owner(s):**

School of Engineering  
Cranfield University  
Bedfordshire, MK43 0AL  
United Kingdom

**Performance**

**Mach Number:** n/a  
**Maximum Flow Speed:** 0.5 – 16m/s  
**Reynolds No:**  $0.36 \times 10^6$ /m -  $1.16 \times 10^6$ /m.  
**Total Pressure:** Ambient  
**Dynamic Pressure:** up to 162 N/m<sup>2</sup>  
**Total Temperature:** Ambient  
**Turbulence intensity:** < 0.1%  
**Run Time:** continuous.  
**Typical Recharge Time:** n/a.

**Test Section Size:** 2.4m x 1.2m x 15m.

**Operational Status:** Operational

**Number and Type of Staff:**

**Scientific:** n/k  
**Technical Support:** 1 – 2 technicians

**Test support:**

Workshop for wind tunnel model design, manufacture and modification capability.

**Specialist Rigs:**

- Interchangeable turbulence grids and surface roughness elements for atmospheric boundary layer simulation.
- High pressure air system (blowing and suction).

**Testing Capabilities:**

**Model Support:** 6-component overhead balance. Computer controlled 3-axis traverse system. 360° rotating floor mounted turntable.  
**Data Acquisition:** multiple channel high speed data acquisition system.  
**Outputs:** Forces and Moments, pressure and velocity (PIV, 4-channel hot wire anemometer).  
**Flow visualisation:** Multiple smoke filament flow seeding, high speed video, surface oilflow. Hydrocarbon analyser for plume dispersion studies.