

University of Southampton R.J.Mitchell Wind Tunnel

Location: University of Southampton

Designation: Low Speed Closed Return

Owner(s):

Engineering and the Environment University of Southampton Highfield, Southampton, SO17 1BJ United Kingdom

Test Section Size: 3.6m x 2.5m x 10.5m

5:1 contraction ratio.

Performance:

Mach Number: 0.15 (max)
Maximum Flow Speed: 50 m/s
Reynolds No: 3.64x10⁶/m (max)
Total Pressure: Ambient.

Dynamic Pressure: Up to 1.58 kN/m² **Total Temperature**: Ambient t 292K. **Turbulence intensity**: < 0.2%

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

Operational Status: Active

Number and Type of Staff:

Scientific: 5

Technical Support: 5+

Testing Capabilities:

Model Support: 6-component overhead balance with various mounting options, underfloor 2-component balance and two point motorised strut for vehicle work.

Data Acquisition: multichannel simultaneous

data acquisition.

Outputs: Forces and moments; pressure, velocity (Stereo PIV, hot wire anemometry). **Flow visualisation:** Smoke, video, surface

fluorescent oilflow.

Test support:

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

Notes:

Formerly at Farnborough the tunnel was moved to Southampton in the 1980s to accommodate extensive motorsport work.

Specialist Rigs:

- Rolling road (up to 40m/s) with dual stage boundary layer suction.
- Dynamic model motion and acquisition systems have been developed previously and a new system is currently being manufactured.
- Rotor rigs have been developed and used in this tunnel as well as propeller/rudder rigs.