



Finnish Air Force Aircraft Fact Sheet



Grob G 115E

The Grob G 115E is a two-seat piston-engined aircraft of German manufacture.

The sourcing of 28 Grob G 115Es for the Defence Forces to be used in Finnish Air Force primary and basic training roles was authorized in October 2016. The aircraft were purchased from Babcock Aerospace Limited, which had previously operated them as a training platform for the Royal Air Force.

The Finnish Grobs are allocated GO-series military registrations and were delivered to Finland in 2016–18. Before entering service, they will receive an avionics and communication systems upgrade. State-of-the-art digital displays will also be fitted in order to bring the cockpit layout compatible with the other aircraft operated by the Finnish Defence Forces.

With the entry into service of the Grobs, the Air Force Academy retires its Valmet L-70 Vinkas that have soldiered on in a primary training role since 1980. Practically all fixed-wing and rotary-wing pilots of the Defence Forces and Border Guard will subsequently receive their first taste of flying in the Grob.

At the controls of the Grob students go solo, get an aircraft type rating, and conduct cross-country navigation training sorties. The Grob will also be used for training students in night flying, poor-visibility instrument flying, and aerobatics.



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Flight training begins with a primary flight syllabus. At this phase, students are conscripts selected for service with a reserve pilot officer course in the Air Force Academy. At the next phase, students have started their studies with a pilot track in the National Defense University. On completion of Grob programs, cadets convert to the Hawk for fast jet training.

History and development

The Grob G 115 first flew in 1985. It is one in a range of two-seat general aviation airplanes produced by Grob Aircraft for civil and military training purposes. The Finnish G 115Es initially entered service with the Royal Air Force in 1999 as the Tutor T1 and were used for primary and basic training.

The production run of the G 115 exceeds 370 aircraft in various versions. The type is used for training by armed forces and civilian flying schools in nine countries.

Technical Data

Wing span: 10.00 m

Length: 7.79 m

Height: 2.82 m

Empty weight: 670 kg

Maximum operating weight: 990 kg

Structure: Carbon-fiber

Power plant: Four-cylinder Textron Lycoming AEIO-360-B1F/B piston engine rated at 180 hp (134 kW)

Cruising speed: 230 km/h at 75 % power at 1,500 m altitude

Ceiling: 6,095 m

Equipment: digital avionics with glass cockpit displays

In service with the Finnish Air Force: 28

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