

Antonov AN-22

The Antonov AN-22 is the largest turboprop ever built. Designed in response to a largely military Soviet requirement for a strategic heavy lift freighter Antonov developed the AN-22 in the middle sixties. The AN-22 made her first flight on February 27, 1965. Launch costumers were Aeroflot and the Soviet Air Force. Antonov built about 70 AN-22 up to the year 1974.



The AN-22 set 14 payload records in 1967. A number of speed records were set in 1972 and speed/payload records in 1974 and 1975.

The airplane was mostly used for military transports into underdeveloped regions of Russia's northeast, Siberia and Far East. Today one last AN-22 is used as freight



charter by the Antonov Design Bureau.

Powered by four Kuznetsov NK12 turboprops (each 15.000hp) the AN-22 had a maximum range of up to 11000km, a maximal height of 7850m and a cruising speed of up to 740km/h with a dimension of 57,9m (length), 65,4m (wingspan) and 12,5m (height).

Some notable features are the massive undercarriage and the comprehensive navigation avionics. Its Kuznetsov NK12 engines are also used for the Tupolev TU-95 and the Tupolev TU-142.