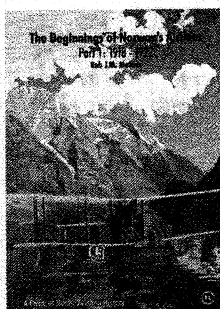


## The Beginnings of Norway's Airlines

by Rob J. M. Mulder

published by European Airlines

This title appeared on our doormat just as last month's Database on the AD Flying Boat and Supermarine Channel was being put to bed — quite a coincidence, given how Channel N.9 is depicted in the lovely cover illustration, and how the type looms large



inside. During the period covered, from 1918-22, some 20 aircraft were sold to Norwegian operators for commercial use and many airline companies formed.

Of course, Mulder covers the main one, DNL (Det Norske Luftfartrederi), but the myriad smaller firms that sprang up are far from forgotten. With its many remote communities, Norway was a country ripe for the development of civil aviation as a means of providing transport links and mail deliveries, but the aircraft involved had to be tough enough to withstand the extremes of the local climate. Many pioneering operations took place at this time, involving both landplanes and floatplanes; British and German aircraft were most prominent, but other types got

a look-in, such as Curtiss MF Seagulls and Caudron G.IIIIs.

The text provides a fascinating degree of insight. Only the odd design aspect betrays the fact that this book is from a small-run, specialist publisher. Otherwise, the image selection is truly excellent and very well reproduced, on good-quality paper and accompanied by some first-class colour profiles. Part 2 of the series will take in the era from 1923-45, and one can expect a similarly high standard. **BD**

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