

Pietenpol Air Camper



Registration: LY-BIM

Pilot: Raimondas Žievys

History

The Pietenpol Air Camper was designed by an American aircraft engineer Bernard H. Pietenpol, who has been designing aircrafts from his young age. Home-built aircrafts were becoming popular in 1920s in US. Pietenpol wanted to design an affordable airplane, simple enough to be built by most craftsmen without special equipment.

In 1928 Pietenpol tested simple parasol wing homebuilt aircraft prototype, that became the first Air Camper. The original model used the Ace four cylinder water-cooled engine. In May 1929 the Ford Model A engine was used, and became the standard powerplant. Air Camper build plans were published in a magazine in 1931-1932, the aircraft was also available to purchase as a kit.

Since then, Air Campers have been built using over 50 recorded different automotive and aviation power plants.

Technical Data

Aircraft spec:

Registration: LY-BIM

Manufacturer: Raimondas Žievys

Year of registration: 2021

Serial No.: RŽ01

Powerplant: Suzuki Swift 1590cc

Power: 92 AG (86 kW)

Crew: One pilot

Capacity: One passenger

Gross weight: 450 kg

Empty weight: 273 kg

Wing loading: 36 kg/m²

Takeoff speed: 100 km/h

Cruising speed: 128.8 km/h

Fuel tank: 60 l

Range: 800 km

General data:

Designer: Bernie Pietenpol

First flight: 1929

Original powerplant: Ford Model A

Length: 17 ft 8 in (5.39 m)

Wingspan: 29 ft 0 in (8.84 m)

Height: 6 ft 6 in (1.98 m)

Wing area: 135 sq ft (12.5 m²)