

Impulse Debuts at Popham



The PFA has approved the build of the first UK example of the Impulse microflight, and this aircraft was on display at Popham on April 30-May 1. (KEY - STEVE BRIDGWATER)

Amongst the many exotic microflights on display at this year's Microflight Trade Fair at Popham, Hants, on April 30 - May 1 was the Impulse.

The aircraft is an all carbon fibre and honeycomb structure microflight aircraft capable of flying in excess of 1,000 miles, non-stop. Designed by Philipp Steinbach, the Impulse is manufactured by Impulse Aircraft GmbH based at Oppin Airfield near Leipzig in Germany.

Chatteris, Cambs-based Impulse Aircraft UK is the sole distributor for this very high-performance modern aircraft in the UK, Eire and India and is now taking orders for kits for

the 450kg microflight and the 720kg 'experimental' versions.

The microflight is available in both tailwheel and nosewheel variants, with a choice of Jabiru 2200 and 3300, Rotax 912 and BMW R1200 engines. The experimental aircraft is available as a taildragger with Rotax 912/914 or Lycoming 320/360 engines as well as WAM and Thielert diesel powerplants. There is even an 'Extreme' version available in Germany with a powerful Allison 430 turbine engine!

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on display at Popham. It is being built with a nosewheel and will be powered by a Jabiru 2200 engine turning a two-blade MT fixed-pitch propeller. The empty weight of the aircraft is 249kg affording a payload of 201kg. This makes it possible for two people weighing an average of 75kg each, plus 40kg fuel (50 litres) plus 10kg baggage to cover a distance of 400 miles at an average speed of 120kts. According to Impulse Aircraft UK: "It is quite possible that the Impulse microflight aircraft may be the fastest microflight in the world at present."