

Bavarian Crono

Own a historic piece of German flight history

Bavarian Crono presents the watch sensation: The watch dial of this very special aviator's watch comes from the original metal of the last known Focke-Wulf FW 200 Condor (works number 0063, identification F8+BR) that was discovered by Norwegian scientists thirty years ago in 1981 and was lifted from the grounds of the Trondheim fjord in a dramatic salvage action in May 1999. The airplane is since 2003 being restored at Airbus in Bremen, Lufthansa Technik in Hamburg and Rolls-Royce in Oberursel near Frankfurt. For the Deutsche Technikmuseum in Berlin.

Named after the largest bird of prey of the Andes, the Focke-Wulf FW 200 Condor was one of the most modern commercial aircraft of the Thirties. Powered by four powerful BMW nine cylinder Bamo-323 R2 radial engines with an output of 1000 hp each the Condor was the first airplane to cover the distance from Berlin to New York non stop.

On 10 August 1938 the Lufthansa FW 200 V1 „Condor“ with the marking D-ACON under the command of flight captain Dipl.-Ing. Alfred Henke and with captain Rudolf von Moreau (second pilot), Paul Dierberg (operator) and Walter Kober (radio operator) as the first civil aircraft flew the distance of 6371,302 km from Berlin-Staaken to the Floyd Bennett Field in New York in 24.56,12 hours, which meant an average speed of 255,499 km/h. On the return flight from New York to Berlin-Tempelhof the airplane covered a distance of 6392 km in 19.55 hours and an average speed of 321 km/h. Both flights were approved as official records in the second class (records with crew) by the FAI.

On 28 November 1938 D-ACON started with the identical crew and additionally with operator Georg Kohne (from Focke-Wulf) and Konsul Heinz Junge (Director of Focke-Wulf-Flugzeugbau GmbH Berlin) from Berlin-Tempelhof for an other record flight with three refuelling stops in Basra (Iraq), Karatschi (Pakistan) und Hanoi (Vietnam) reaching Tokio on 30 November 1938. During this flight the Condor covered 13.844 km in 46 hour and 18 minutes and an average speed of 192 km/h (including the times for refuelling in Basra, Karachi und Hanoi).