

HANSA VT-XBL Takes Off

90's

The second production prototype of the HANSA (VT-XBL) had its first "official" test flight on 11 May 1998. HANSA VT-XBL, flown by Sqn Ldr Baldev Singh, was flagged off by Murli Manohar Joshi. The success of HANSA VT-XBL was the sweetest for NAL scientists because they had managed to trim down the aircraft's weight by over 100 kg – taking a big step forward towards the HANSA's ultimate type certification under the JAR-VLA category. With a lighter, and more powerful, Rotax engine, the HANSA "took off like a rocket".

HANSA is airborne.



Murli Manohar Joshi, Minister for HRD and S&T (in the HANSA cockpit) and Ananth Kumar, Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism, with Sqn Ldr Baldev Singh before the HANSA inaugural flight.