

The Service aérien gouvernemental: Over 30 Years of Excellence

The Service aérien gouvernemental is on the frontlines of forest protection in Québec. It has been fighting fires from the air for over 30 years.

Battling forest fires is not the service's only responsibility. It also sees to:

- Aeromedical evacuations
- Transportation of persons on official government duties
- Aerial surveillance in the province

The Service aérien gouvernemental operates one of the largest fleets of air tankers in the world on behalf of SOPFEU (*Société de protection des forêts contre le feu*).

During the forest fire season from early May to late August, the entire air tanker fleet is on call in Québec.

The rest of the year, crews and aircraft of the Service aérien gouvernemental are available to combat fires anywhere in the world. In fact, this service has earned quite an international reputation.

Integrated Services

In addition to air tanker rentals to clients around the world, the Service aérien gouvernemental offers a range of integrated services provided by:

- Experienced pilots
- Specialized air tanker maintenance crews
- Seasoned instructors

One of the Biggest Air Tanker Fleets in the World!

The Service aérien gouvernemental operates a fleet of 14 air tankers:

- 8 CL-415 aircraft
- 2 CL-215 T aircraft
- 4 CL-215 P aircraft

Specifications

	CL-215 P	CL-215 T	CL-415
Cruising Speed	287 km/h or 155 knots	343 km/h or 185 knots	343 km/h or 185 knots
Water Tank Capacity	5,448 liters or 1,200 Imp. gal. or 1,441 US gal.	5,448 liters or 1,200 Imp. gal. or 1,441 US gal.	6,130 liters or 1,350 Imp. gal. or 1,621 US gal.
Maximum Weight After Filling	19,730 kg or 43,500 lb.	20,568 kg or 45,400 lb.	21,315 kg or 47,000 lb.
Filling Time	10 seconds	10 seconds	12 seconds

Imp. gal. = Imperial gallon
US gal. = American gallon

Did You Know?

The air tanker's yellow and red colors make it highly visible in smoke-filled skies.

Filling

To fill its tanks, a CL-415-type air tanker will skim the surface of a body of water at 130 km/h for about twelve seconds. This captures up to 6,130 liters.



Release

Once the tanks are full, the air tanker proceeds to the fire zone to drop its load of water. Depending on the type of fire, the water can also be combined with a foaming agent.



Did You Know?

Extinguishing foam is one of the latest advances in firefighting in urban and forest settings. It is mixed with the water to enhance its effectiveness once released.

A Specialized & Versatile Team

A specialized and versatile team provides the Service aérien gouvernemental with its firefighting expertise.

The team is comprised of some 100 individuals, including:

- Pilots (also known as our "aerial fire-fighters")
- Specialized air tanker maintenance technicians
- Instructors

Service quality and client satisfaction are two overriding concerns of the Service aérien gouvernemental team.

Did You Know?

In one hour, an air tanker can release up to forty loads of water.

“Aerial Firefighters” With Experience

The Service aérien gouvernemental team of “aerial firefighters” boasts extensive experience, with a combined total of over 7,000 hours of flying time.

Air tanker crews are made up of a commander and a co-pilot. These veteran firefighters can readily adapt to the various firefighting systems in use in countries around the world.

Skilled, Qualified Technicians

The specialized technicians who maintain the Service aérien gouvernemental fleet of air tankers are graduates of l'École nationale d'aérotechnique and possess an average of 15 years' experience.

The Direction de la maintenance des aéronefs of the Service aérien has been ISO 9001 certified since December 1997, demonstrating its commitment to world standards in service quality.



Recognized Training Tailored to Individual Needs

The Service aérien gouvernemental training courses are recognized by Transports Canada. They offer training that is specially tailored to the needs of pilots and technicians and delivered by instructors with years of air tanker flight and maintenance experience.

Available Courses

- Basic theory and annual refresher courses for pilots
- PC-based general and specialized (CL-215) self-training
- Basic theory for aircraft maintenance technicians
- IFR (Instrument Flight Rule) training on generic simulator

Training Facilities

- Multimedia classroom set up especially for pilots and technicians
- Desktop computers for the self-training component
- Generic twin-engine aircraft simulator

Arrangements can also be made to have an instructor team provide off-site training.

An International Reputation

The reputation of the Service aérien gouvernemental extends far beyond Québec's borders! In recent years, its pilots and technicians have taken their skills and knowledge to locations all over the world.

Canada United States Other Countries

Alberta	Arkansas	Argentina
British Columbia	California (Los Angeles)	Chile
Manitoba	Florida	Croatia
New Brunswick	Maine	Ecuador
Newfoundland	North Carolina	Mexico
Northwest Territories	South Carolina	Portugal
Ontario	Tennessee	Turkey
Saskatchewan	Virginia	

How to Contact the Service aérien gouvernemental

For more information, feel free to contact us.

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Aerial Fire Fighting

Service aérien gouvernemental



Québec

