

Fact Sheet

Super Star D-ALAN

Facts	2
1. Lockheed L-1649A Starliner	2
1.1. Special features	2
1.2. Historical facts	2
2. D-ALAN	3
2.1. Historical facts	3
2.2. Aircraft data	

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FACTS

1. Lockheed L-1649A Starliner

- Manufacturer: Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, Burbank, California
- Type: Four-engine long-range commercial aircraft
- Nickname: Super Star
- Production period: 1955 to 1958
- Maiden flight: October 10, 1956
- Fleet: 4 Super Star in the Lufthansa fleet (D-ALUB, D-ALAN, D-ALER, D-ALOL)

1.1. Special features

- Revolutionary range: The Super Star was the first aircraft enabling nonstop flights between Europe and the U.S. East Coast.
- Luxurious cabin: This was the introduction of Lufthansa’s exclusive Senator Class. Passengers enjoyed generous seat spacing, elegant interior design, and incomparable service.
- Technological innovation:
 - Technical highlight of the propeller era
 - Improved aerodynamics, four turbo-compound engines, and long, straight wings enabled greater efficiency and speed than earlier propeller-driven aircraft.
- The distinctive tail unit with three stabilizing fins ensures a smooth flight. As the fins are smaller compared to other models, the Super Star fits into smaller hangars.
- In service as a freighter: In the early 1960s, faster jets like the Boeing 707, equipped with new jet engine technology, replaced the Super Star as a passenger aircraft. However, the Super Star remained in service as a freighter.

1.2. Historical facts

1957	Lufthansa receives its first Super Star.
March 17, 1958	The Lockheed Super Star is in scheduled service. Lufthansa is deploying its most modern wide-body aircraft, the Lockheed Super Star, on its North Atlantic route as planned.
November 6, 1958	The new luxurious “Senator Service” is introduced on the Hamburg-Frankfurt-New York route. On a Lockheed Super Star, eight first-class seats in the front cabin, 18 deluxe seats in the main cabin, and four beds in the rear cabin offer guests plenty of personal space. In the “lounge” with its onboard restaurant and galley, a chef-steward and three additional flight attendants ensure excellent service.
1960	Sale of the D-ALER and the D-ALOL. The D-ALAN and the D-ALUB are being converted into freighters.
1966	Sale of the last two superstars

2. D-ALAN

- Model designation: Lockheed L-1649A
- Original engines: 4 air-cooled 18-cylinder Curtiss-Wright R-3350 turbo-compound double-star engines, each with 3,450 hp

2.1. Historical facts

December 20, 1957	Lufthansa's Acquisition of D-ALAN
January 4 – 6, 1958	The D-ALAN is transferred from Ontario to Hamburg.
April 1 & 2, 1960	The first polar flight: On a special flight, Chancellor Konrad Adenauer flies from Tokyo over the North Pole to Cologne/Bonn aboard the D-ALAN.
July 1960	The D-ALAN is converted into a freighter named “Neck-ar”.
March 3, 1966	Sale to Air Ventures, Florida
1976	The D-ALAN is decommissioned in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.
2001	The D-ALAN is restored and transferred to the Fantasy of Flight Museum in Florida.
December 18, 2007	The Deutsche Lufthansa Berlin-Stiftung purchases the D-ALAN and two other Super Stars. The goal is to restore one of the aircraft and thus preserve it for future generations.
2008	Construction and commissioning of a new hangar for the Super Star Project at Auburn/Lewiston Airport (LEW), Maine (U.S.)
2018	After intensively considering many factors, Lufthansa decides not to proceed with the airworthiness certification and operation of the aircraft.
2019	The D-ALAN is dismantled into its individual components and prepared for transport to Germany.
2020	The demounted D-ALAN is transported in three heavy-haul trucks to Paderborn/Lippstadt Airport, where it was stored.
2023	Back in Hamburg, the D-ALAN is reassembled.
January 2025	D-ALAN celebrates its launch in Hamburg.
July/August 2025	The D-ALAN is taken – disassembled once again – to Münster/Osnabrück Airport. There, it is painted in the parabolic design of the 1950s.
August 2025	The D-ALAN is transported from Hamburg to Frankfurt in four heavy-haul shipments and is assembled for the last time in Hangar One.

2.2. Aircraft data

Registration	D-ALAN
Year of construction	1957
Crew	Cockpit 3, cabin > 4
Passengers	Up to 99 (depending on the configuration)
Engines	4 air-cooled 18-cylinder turbo-compound double-row radial engines, Curtiss-Wright R3350-988TC 18EA2
Type	Lockheed L-1649A Super Star
Cruising speed	Approx. 535 km/h
Max. range	Approx. 8.500 km (nonstop-transatlantic)
Max. flight duration	Up to 17 hours
Length	35,40 m
Hight	7,60 m
Span width	45,70 m
Wing area	Approx. 170 m ²
Tare	Approx. 53 to
Max. take-off weight	Approx. 72 to
Tank capacity	Approx. 37,000 l
Service ceiling	7,600 m