

FIRST FAN JET — North Central's representative at the Douglas Aircraft plant in California, Robert Dassow, inspects the nose section of the company's first DC-9 fan jet which is now under construction. The articles on the nose of the DC-9 are "ceco clamps," which hold the skin in place until it has been riveted.



DC-9 PROGRESS — The main section of the fuselage for North Central's first DC-9 Series 30 fan jet is now under construction at the Douglas Aircraft plant in California. The photo above shows the exterior skin in place. Below is the lower aft section of the aircraft. North Central has 10 of the 100-passenger fan jets on order from Douglas, with delivery to begin this summer.





DC-9 PROGRESS — North Central's first DC-9 fan jet moves along the assembly line toward completion at the Douglas Aircraft plant in California. The upper half of the fuselage is being joined with the two lower halves. Shortly after this photo was taken, the nose section was attached to the fuselage.

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DC-9 PROGRESS — North Central's first DC-9 fan jet begins to take shape at the Douglas Aircraft plant in Long Beach, California. The upper photo shows the nose section attached to the fuselage; while below, the tail section of the aircraft moves toward completion. The wings were joined to the fuselage during the second week of April.

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EXECUTIVES WATCH — Three North Central executives were spectators during the "wing joining" process on the company's first Douglas DC-9 fan jet. From left are R. H. Bendio, vice president; L. J. Keely, vice president-maintenance and engineering; and G. F. Wallis, vice president-flight operations. Keely displays the device which controlled the electrically-powered crane that lowered the fuselage into position. Pictured just above the fuselage is the special three-sided display featuring "Herman", North Central's mallard duck insignia which was illuminated at the moment the fuselage and wings joined.

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NEARS COMPLETION - North Central's first DC-9 fan jet displays the new exterior paint design in aqua, blue and gold. Still missing on the tail is the familiar mallard duck insignia, "Herman". The photo, taken at the Douglas plant in Long Beach, California, shows the 100-passenger aircraft shortly after the wings and fuselage were joined on April 12.

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CALIFORNIA DELIVERY — Acceptance ceremonies for the first North Central DC-9 fan jet were held in Long Beach, California prior to the flight to the Twin Cities. G. F. Wallis, vice president-flight operations, second from right, receives a gold key to the jet from G. B. Thomas, Douglas Aircraft vice president-domestic commercial sales. From left are Mary King, stewardess training supervisor; R. H. Bendio, vice president; J. P. Dow, North Central corporate secretary; Thomas; Wallis; and Pat Andres, stewardess training supervisor.

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