



AIRCRAFT PROFILE

N707JT

Boeing 707-138B · ex VH-EBM

Sydney

Qantas City of Launceston, later John Travolta's V-Jet. Donated to HARS and being reassembled at Shellharbour Airport in 2026.

TYPE	Boeing 707-138B
SERIAL	18740 / 388
FIRST FLIGHT AS VH-EBM	1 September 1964
QANTAS NAME	City of Launceston
CURRENT IDENTITY	N707JT
SINCE 2017	Donated to HARS
STATUS	Reassembly at Shellharbour Airport, 2026

History

Rolled out as a 707-138B on 29 July 1964, she first flew as VH-EBM on 1 September for Qantas Empire Airways and was named City of Launceston. On 6 March 1965 a right-hand main axle failed on take-off from Perth; the wheel stayed on the torque rod and she landed safely. Her last Qantas revenue service was 1 April 1968, after which she was stored at Sydney without engines.

Braniff bought her in June 1969 as N108BN and withdrew her in October 1973. Boeing took her back in 1975, then Tracy Investments, then TAG Aviation in Saudi Arabia. She was parked again in 1981, returned to service, became N707XX in 1990, and passed to Aviation Methods in 1995.

In May 1998 she was sold to Jet Clipper Johnny LLC — John Travolta — and that December became N707JT. In June 2002 she was repainted in full Qantas V-Jet colours after Travolta became a Qantas ambassador. The photographs here are from her visit to Sydney, including Hangar 96.

Travolta donated her to the Historical Aircraft Restoration Society in 2017. Corrosion and airworthiness work in the United States made a ferry flight impractical, so she was dismantled at Brunswick, Georgia, in March 2026 and shipped to Australia. The fuselage and wings reached Port Kembla on 13 May 2026 and HARS at Shellharbour Airport on 20 May. Reassembly for permanent display began that October. She is the last of the thirteen short-body 707-138Bs built for Qantas.