



**SAIB:** CE-10-20

**Date:** March 16, 2010

**SUBJ:** Wing Structure; Wingtip Extensions

*This is information only. Recommendations aren't mandatory.*

## **Introduction**

This Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin (SAIB) alerts owners and operators of **Cessna Models 336 or 337 series airplanes with wingtip extensions** of actions that should enhance the safety of your airplane.

At this time, the airworthiness concern is not an unsafe condition that would warrant airworthiness directive (AD) action under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR) part 39.

## **Background**

This SAIB is based on preliminary investigation findings from a fatal accident involving a Cessna Model T336G. The airplane experienced separation of a six-foot section of the outboard right wing. This airplane had been modified with an STC for extended wingtips. It also had an additional STC for winglets. For more information on the accident, see the NTSB preliminary report ERA10FA140. The subsequent investigation revealed there have also been reports from the field of wrinkled skins, working rivets, cracks, and loose wing tips. The FAA notes that following service information has been issued.

- Cessna Service Newsletter SNL06-6, FAA Approved Supplemental Type Certificates (STC's) and FAA-PMA Approved Parts
- Aviation Enterprises Wing Extension Service Letter AE01-11-00

## **Recommendations**

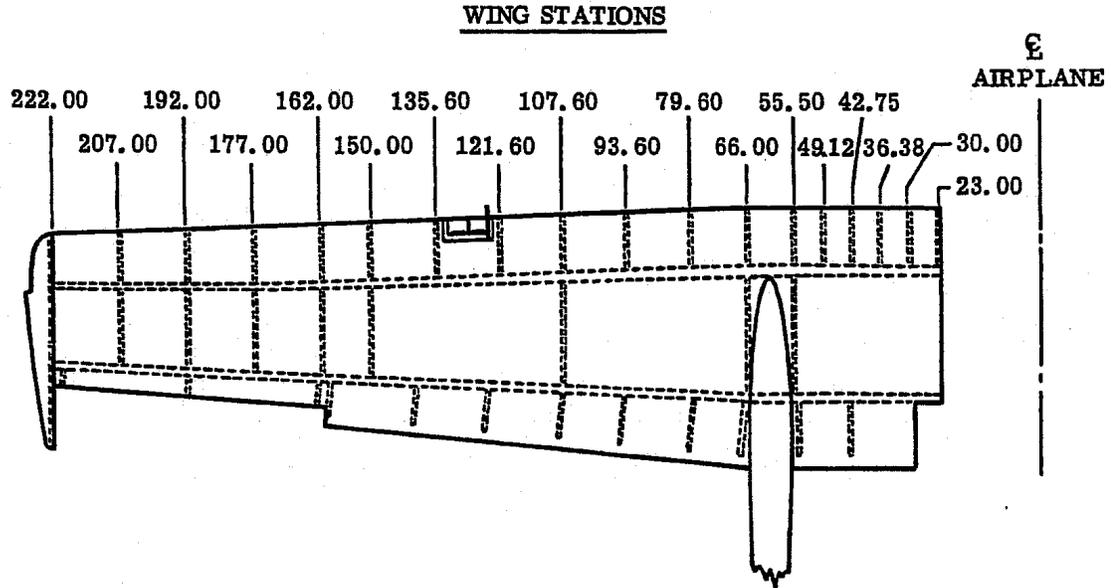
After reviewing the above data, we recommend that you do the following:

1. Review and adhere to all published airspeed and maneuvering limitations for the modified airplane. Look for excessive "bowing" of the tip extensions in flight.
2. Perform a one-time general inspection of the wings for internal and external damage from Wing Station (WSTA) 23 to the wing tip within the next 100 hours time-in-service (TIS). Remove all wing access panels to conduct the inspection. Areas to focus on are listed below. Do this inspection following the appropriate manufacture's service information and any other appropriate guidance, such as FAA Advisory Circular AC 43.13-1B Acceptable Methods, Techniques, and Practices - Aircraft Inspection and Repair.

Focused inspection items to focus on:

- Wrinkles in upper wing skins;
- Cracking of the upper wing skins. Pay particular attention to any wrinkles, the radius between stiffeners at Wing Station (WSTA) 150 (under fuel tank covers), and unreinforced access holes;

- Smoking rivets at the rib near the inboard aileron hinge (WSTA 162);
- Missing fastener hardware, particularly for attachment of the tips;
- Excessive looseness of attachments of the tip extension to the wing and wing tip to wing extension when pushing up and down on the tip;
- Any signs of distress along both front and rear spars; and
- Unusual repairs to the upper skins, particularly in the area of WSTA 150-162.



This is an on-going investigation, we request that if any damage is found, notify us at the address for the Atlanta Aircraft Certification Office listed below. Please include as much information as possible, including "N" number, model number, serial number, list of STC modifications, TIS on aircraft and wing extension, physical description of damage (location, length, orientation, parts cracked, etc.), and if possible, pictures of the damage.

Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the information collection contained in this SAIB, and assigned OMB Control Number 2120-0731.

3. In the case of multiple STC installations on the same aircraft, make sure the following determination, noted on the STC certificate, has been made: "This approval should not be extended to aircraft of this model on which other previously approved modifications are incorporated unless it is determined that the interrelationship between this change and any of those other previously approved modifications will introduce no adverse effect upon the airworthiness of that aircraft."

**For Further Information Contact**

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## **For Related Service Information Contact**

Aviation Enterprises, 4099 Brick Church Pk, Whites Creek, TN 37189; telephone: (615) 585-7765; fax: (615) 865-9164; Internet: <http://www.aviationenterprises.us/>.

Flint Aero Inc., Gillespie Field, 1942 Joe Crosson Drive, El Cajon, CA 92020; telephone: (619) 448-1551; fax: (619) 448-1571; Internet: <http://www.flintaero.com/index.html>.

Cessna Aircraft Company, P.O. Box 7704, Wichita, Kansas 67277; telephone: (800) 423-7762 or (316) 517-6056; Internet: <http://www.cessna.com>.