



RAISBECK RECEIVES FAA STC APPROVAL FOR NEW EPIC CARAVAN DRAG REDUCTION SYSTEM

News / Manufacturer



Raisbeck Engineering has received Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) approval for its new drag reduction system, EPIC Caravan, for the Cessna Caravan 208B aircraft. This STC enables Caravan 208B fleet and owner-operators who are flying cargo pod-equipped aircraft to reduce drag and consequently increase cruise speeds and/or decrease fuel burn.

EPIC Caravan was designed to address the aerodynamic drag associated with Cessna Caravan 208Bs equipped with factory cargo pods. The 208B experiences a significant decrease in speed and an increase in fuel burn due to the cargo pod. Raisbeck's new drag reduction system is comprised of a composite Forward Cargo Pod Fairing and metal Dual Aft Body Strakes and weighs only 38 lbs. The system offers operators the option to fly 5+ knots faster or go farther on the same fuel load. In addition to the drag reduction, the Dual Aft Body Strakes provide significantly improved lateral stability.

“The Cessna Caravan aircraft is renowned for its rugged utility and adaptability to a wide variety of operations. EPIC Caravan will not only ease pilot workload, but also offer operators a more cost-effective, environmentally friendly way of flying,” stated Hal Chrisman, President of Raisbeck Engineering. “The new system provides operators the option to utilize faster cruise speeds or to reduce fuel flows with lower ITT. The STC also marks an important milestone for the company as we expand our product offerings in the business and general aviation market.”

In addition, Raisbeck’s engineering team has been actively pursuing certification for Textron’s current production model, the Cessna Grand Caravan EX. The Grand Caravan EX STC program is on track with certification expected later this year. Moreover, to meet a growing demand in the Brazilian market, the company has begun efforts to obtain ANAC approval for the new EPIC Caravan modification., This will be followed by EASA and other foreign certifications to serve the worldwide marketplace.

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