



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Eastern Region – Ashburn, Virginia

MEMORANDUM OF RECORD

RE: Substantial Damage Assessment to N750LK (ERA22LA221)

Date: May 10, 2022

The ERA on-call Duty Officer received a damage assessment from the FAA regarding damage to the airplane's left wing c-channel. In an abundance of caution, the Duty Officer contacted NTSB Structures Engineer, Clint Crookshanks for an evaluation to confirm that the damage was indeed substantial. Mr. Crookshanks stated the following:

"You are correct that this is substantial. The upper and lower wing skins and the rear spar are damaged which would adversely affect the structural strength requiring major repair or replacement."

The pilot/owner/builder, Larry Sward, was notified by the NTSB IIC, that the damage was substantial and the event involving his airplane would be classified as an accident. Mr. Sward stated that he initially planned to challenge that opinion and called Zenith (the kit manufacturer) and spoke to their structures engineer. Mr. Sward told the NTSB IIC that Zenith confirmed that the damage to the c-channel would affect the wing's structural and agreed with the NTSB's assessment that it was substantially damaged.

END

Leah Read, NTSB - IIC