

The Av8 Group has developed and certified an STC (Supplemental Type Certificate) for a Rain Erosion Shield for the vertical stabilizer leading edge of B737 series aircraft.











The Problem:

The vertical stabilizer leading edge of B737 series aircraft is currently a one-piece composite structure constructed of aluminum and fiberglass. The fiberglass section is integral to the leading edge and provides transitivity for the HF antenna mounted immediately behind it (if HF is fitted). Over time, the fiberglass abrades and wears away, requiring repair.

The current method of repair is to remove the entire leading edge and repair to the fiberglass section. As the fiberglass has to be built in several layers, this method of repair can take over a full week to complete. The removal and reinstallation of the leading edge assembly alone can take 8-10 hours.

The Av8 Group Solution:

The Av8 Group has developed and certified an STC (Supplemental Type Certificate) for a Rain Erosion Shield Patch for the vertical stabilizer leading edge of B737 series aircraft. The patch is offered in two forms: aluminum for aircraft without HF installed and a Quartz Composite patch for aircraft that have HF installed.

The patch is supplied complete with separate mounting plates. The plates are installed in the inside of the leading edge and the patch is then installed with screws through the leading edge, into the mounting plates. Access to the leading edge is facilitated via an access panel immediately above the fiberglass section.

To facilitate the installation of the mounting plates, an optional drill guide may be purchased to quickly and accurately drill the correct hole pattern for the mounting plates.

Total installation time for The Av8 Group Rain Erosion Shield Patch is just 4 hours.

