

FAA Inspector Statement for N73T

I spoke with the FAA Regional Operations Center at 1410 on the 27th of April 2022 about a collapsed gear on aircraft N73T that had just landed. My self and two trainee inspectors drove to Terre Haute (HUF) April 28th, 2022 to look at the aircraft. The pilot's wife met us at the airport and allowed us in to the hangar to view the aircraft. The right wing appeared to have to have obvious damage to the top side, ripples in the sheet metal were visible and there were two large dents in the leading edge of the wings. We asked how the large dents got there and we were later told that they were from a forklift that had lifted the aircraft up to move it off the runway. The bottom side of the wing appeared to have substantial damage with structural members of the wing tearing through rivets and being distorted. The landing gear was not attached to the aircraft due to the forward attach point being completely broken on the lower edge of where the landing gear trunnion would rest. The broken piece was recovered by the airport team at approximately the spot where the aircraft touched down. We inspected the spot on the runway where the accident happened and there was just one visible ground scar where the gear initially collapsed and it ended where the aircraft came to a stop.

**Andrew L
Strader**  Digitally signed by
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Aviation Safety Inspector