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Air Safety Investigator
AS-Eastern Region Aviation

Date: 10/29/2025

Subject: ERA25LA337, FAA examination assessment

Contact: Eric James, FAA/FSDO Inspector-Roch Larocca/PIC

On September 18, 2025, Inspector James traveled to Mt. Pleasant to meet with pilot Roch Larocca regarding the investigation of a landing gear collapse incident. Upon accessing the nose landing gear wheel well and removing accumulated debris, the examination revealed that the bolt connecting the landing gear actuator had sheared.





Inspector James documented the condition of the affected components by taking detailed photographs of the sheared bolt, the actuator, and the surrounding airframe structure within the nose landing gear wheel well area.

After completing the documentation, Inspector James advised Mr. Larocca that the sheared bolt was determined to be the apparent cause of the landing gear collapse. During the discussion, both Mr. Larocca and inspector James observed that the bolt appeared to be undersized for its intended application in the actuator assembly. Mr. Larocca further stated that this bolt had been installed approximately thirteen (13) years prior. An examination of the airplane revealed that the left wing had buckled throughout the span of the wing.

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