

**For Immediate Release****ALERT.....IDLE AIRCRAFT RISK ENGINE CARE VIOLATION.....ALERT!**

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz., June 16th, 2009--. With over 3000 idle business jets in today's economy, there is trouble brewing. For those aircraft owners who fail to comply with applicable turbine engine preservation procedures, significant expense and/or serious aircraft de-valuation will result. Calls to my office from appraisers, lawyers, lenders, owner/operators, and potential buyers typically result in disappointing news as they learn of the consequences of engine care program violations. Aircraft valuations plummet when engines must be inspected for engine core bearing micro pitting. This is an expensive lesson in any case, but especially so when an owner is enrolled in a guaranteed hourly cost maintenance program.

The back story is all too familiar. Typically, the aircraft has been sitting unused for an extended period of time following operational and maintenance staff cuts. Without professional oversight, required engine preservation duties are not accomplished. This leads to what is termed 'ABUSE' within most guaranteed hourly engine programs. **PLEASE READ YOUR CONTRACT FOR DETAILS**. In most cases, engine care compliance requires that the enrolled equipment follow the OEM's maintenance manual 'Engine Preservation' requirements. Failure to comply, leads to engine removal and return to an Approved/Authorized MRO facility for a very expensive inspection.

Currently, the writer is serving as an expert witness in a very expensive lawsuit involving these very issues. Hundreds of thousands in legal fees have mounted and the case has yet to be settled. Since commercial carriers manage fleets, they are sensitive to such issues and are well attuned to the requirements of strict preservation requirements. Not so in our fragmented industry. Recent business aviation public acknowledgement that over 3000 business aircraft are stored or out of service, along with the litigation process mentioned above, prompted this article as a courtesy alert to the business aviation industry.

Our advice to everyone is to make absolutely certain that the defined maintenance actions described in the appropriate manuals are complied with by a FAA licensed person or MRO facility. If in doubt, contact the engine OEM Customer Support or the guaranteed cost provider.

For guidance/ consultation, contact Richard Schuller via email [rschuller@sextantadvisory.com](mailto:rschuller@sextantadvisory.com) or give us a call at **1.888.230.6153**

**About Sextant Advisory**

Sextant Advisory, LLC is a global aviation professional services firm specializing in performance improvement, business development, and interim management. Founded on the premise that business aviation is about more than just aircraft, Sextant Advisory believes aviation businesses need to employ sound fundamentals and best practices that are transferable from other industries. As such, along with the company's four principals, it employs an additional 10 subject matter experts (SME's) spanning all business disciplines. Sextant Advisory locations include the United States, Latin America and Europe. For more information, please visit us at: [www.sextantadvisory.com](http://www.sextantadvisory.com). ###