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West Star Aviation Inc. Gearing Up For Conquest II Expanded Inspection Program

Grand Junction, CO, September 25, 2007– In response to recent significant changes to the Cessna Conquest II maintenance manual incorporated in June of this year, West Star Aviation Inc.'s Grand Junction, Colorado facility is making significant investments in tooling, hiring personnel, and allocating more hangar space in an effort to handle the expected inspection workload these changes will create.

According to Rick Brainard, General Manager, West Star Aviation Inc., Grand Junction, Colorado, these investments are essential. "Every Conquest II in the world, regardless of total time, is affected by these maintenance manual changes, and they are all required to have a significant amount of inspection work done within the next year", says Brainard. "And since we work on over 60 percent of the U.S. Conquest II fleet every year at our Grand Junction facility, we want to do our best to accommodate our Conquest II customer base."

The Conquest II maintenance manual revision number 16 and accompanying Supplemental Inspection Documents (SIDs) were created in response to the FAA's push for all manufacturers to address aging aircraft concerns. These revisions include a number of new phase and NDT inspections that utilize more sophisticated tooling to detect corrosion, cracking, or other anomalies in the aircraft structure.

The maintenance manual revisions call for several initial inspections to be accomplished before September 1, 2008. "The initial inspections are extensive and will involve additional aircraft down time to get them done," says Joe Kendrick, Conquest Program Manager, West Star

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Aviation, Inc. “We are encouraging our customers to begin planning and scheduling these events well in advance of the time they will want to put the aircraft down. “

West Star Aviation, Inc. maintenance and QA personnel have spent considerable time analyzing the new maintenance manual revisions with an eye toward efficiently integrating the new requirements into the existing maintenance program and minimizing aircraft down time to the extent possible.

“It makes the most sense to have all the initial new inspections completed at one time,” says Kendrick. “We are advising our Conquest customers to look at their maintenance and upgrade needs in the coming year because they may want to combine the new inspections with existing phase inspections, engine changes, new paint and interior, avionics upgrades, or other upgrades they may be contemplating.”

West Star Aviation Inc. sees the Conquest II maintenance manual revisions as an ultimately good thing for the fleet. “The intent of these new inspections is to maintain the reliability and safety of the aircraft as the fleet ages,” says Brainard. “Because Conquest II’s are such efficient aircraft, we believe they will continue to maintain their strong re-sale values and that this program will only help ensure that they remain viable transportation tool for years to come.”

With locations in East Alton, Illinois, Grand Junction, Colorado, and Dallas, Texas, West Star Aviation, Inc. represents the very best in aircraft maintenance capability and services. The Grand Junction, Colorado (GJT) location is a full service FBO specializing in airframe maintenance, engine repair, interior, paint and avionics upgrades for a wide variety of today’s corporate and general aviation aircraft including Lear, Conquest, Citation, Hawker, Challenger and Falcon aircraft. West Star Aviation, Inc. is an Authorized Service Center for Hawker and Citation 500 and 650 series aircraft including the Sovereign, Mustang and CJIII aircraft, as well as an Authorized Embraer Phenom Service Center. The company also holds an STC for an RVSM solution for the Learjet 31, 35, 35A, 36 and 36A and is currently pursuing an RVSM solution for Conquest II aircraft. This location also specializes in the acquisition and sales of surplus avionics through the Hiawatha, IA facility.

The location at St. Louis Regional Airport (ALN) in East Alton, IL is a Factory Authorized Cessna Citation Service Center for all 500 and 650 series aircraft including the Sovereign, Mustang and CJIII aircraft and is FAA-Certified on all Dassault Falcon aircraft. This location also specializes in interior, paint, avionics and engine maintenance.

The Dallas location specializes in maintenance for Citations, Hawkers, Beechjets, King Airs and Learjets. It is also a factory authorized Embraer Phenom, Cessna Citation 500-series and Citation Mustang Service Center. West Star Aviation, Inc. strives to be a leader in technical expertise and experience, and works to ensure customer satisfaction at every level. For more information on West Star Aviation, Inc. call 800-922-2421.