



easyJet Cuts Aircraft Damage Assessment Time by 80% with Geomagic® Control X™

Intuitive inspection software helps airline lower Aircraft on Ground time, reduce costs and achieve consistent reporting

If you've flown anywhere in Europe in the past two decades, chances are good that you've flown on easyJet. This leading European low-cost airline brings travelers to more than 30 countries on 600+ routes safely and conveniently, all while offering some of the lowest fares across the continent. How do they do it? With a focus on safety, simplicity, and operational efficiency. easyJet's engineering organization epitomizes this ethos by putting safety at the heart of everything it does and innovating to continually improve performance and reduce costs.

Minimizing Aircraft on Ground Time

One of the most important ways that easyJet can minimize delays and keep ticket prices low is reducing Aircraft on Ground (AOG) time. Unplanned AOG events happen when any of the company's 298 Airbus aircraft are damaged or experience mechanical failures, and can be very costly — not to mention inconvenient to passengers. It's clear that the faster a damaged aircraft can be checked, the better it is for the airline and its passengers.

"One of our biggest challenges is to try and reduce the AOG time of aircraft and maintain accurate records when damage occurs," said Andrew Knight, Fleet Structures Engineer at easyJet. While rare, hail, bird strikes, and other events can potentially damage the wings and fuselage and require inspection before flying again. Checking damage from these types of events has traditionally been a low tech, manual, and time-consuming process that requires maintenance staff to assess aircraft damage using manual measuring tools such as rulers and vernier calipers. Worse still, interpreting the extent of any damage using this technique is highly subjective and not repeatable between staff members. easyJet's structural

An easyJet Airbus A320 at the company's maintenance hangar, where 3D scanning is being leveraged to improve and speed up aircraft damage assessments.

CHALLENGE:

Assess and report damage to aircraft from hail, bird strikes, etc. quickly, repeatably, and traceably to minimize "Aircraft on Ground" time and allow for more efficient repairs.

SOLUTION:

Deploy a handheld 3D scanner along with Geomagic® Control X™ software so that ground crews can quickly measure and assess damage over large sections of an aircraft with minimal training and time commitment.

RESULTS:

- Reduced damage assessment time from days to hours
- Significant cost savings realized through lower Aircraft on Ground time
- Better information improves decision making for repairs
- Easy, reliable and consistent damage assessment across staff members without the need for extensive training

