



Rutan Tests The Long-EZ For Deep Stall

Using a basic, plans-built Long-EZ donated by homebuilder Donald Douglas, Rutan Aircraft Factory has measured full scale data to investigate the behavior of the Long-EZ design at extreme angles of attack.

While Long-EZs are limited by aerodynamic design to achieving flight angles of attack above 16° , one Long-EZ is known to have become locked in a deep stall that resulted in an accident with injuries to the pilot.

To further investigate this phenomenon, Douglas' Long-EZ was mounted to a special 3-axes instrumented support on the front of a truck and was driven along the runways at Mojave while gathering data. These data show that the Long-EZ can recover from a deep stall when flown within allowable CG limits. The suspected, vortex-induced, extreme lift at high angles of attack did not exist. Data from these tests and a discussion of their implications to Long-EZ flyers will be published in the July issue of the RAF Canard Pusher newsletter.

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