

Helping in the fight to control forest fires

Fire fighting aircraft have to remain close to the fires for extended periods of time far from their home base. When on the ground, these aircraft must have their motors sealed from the accidental ingesting of debris from the fire, dust, birds, etc.

The existing parts were failing in the field due to breakage thus making the aircraft's motors vulnerable to damage.

Itek assisted in stopping the breakage by improving the part design and then molding a high performance, high impact resistant plastic.

● **Reinforcing ribs added for stiffness and impact resistance**

● **Complex center detail molded-in adding light weight reinforcement**



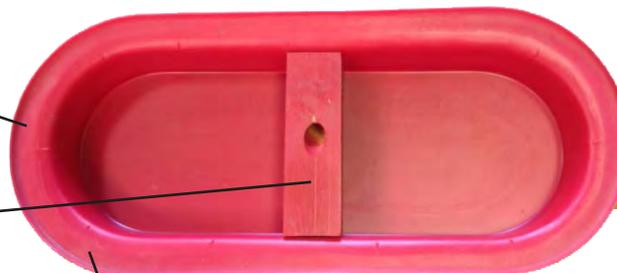
● **Polished, easy to clean surfaces**

● **Custom colored plastic**

ITEK RESULT

● **Cleaning of multipart, painted surfaces requires special care**

● **Precut, painted wood held in place with six screws**



● **Thinning (weakening) at the corners and no possibility of adding strengthening ribs**

PREVIOUS

The parked aircraft are often subjected to high winds that can cause the part to detach and possibly damaged during the fall to the ground. The loss of the part and the potential damage to the part would then compromise the protection to the motor.

Itek was asked to continue the part development to improve the grip or hold when the part is installed on the aircraft all the while maintaining an excellent resistance to sub-zero winter and scorching summer temperatures.

Itek developed a flexible, lightweight foam elastomer belt to be attached to the outer perimeter and fill the interface where the aircraft motor intake comes in contact with the part.

PREVIOUS

Open cell consumer grade foam

Narrow engagement

ITEK RESULT

Textured surfaces for high friction fit

Industrial grade neoprene cellular foam

Wide engagement

Custom sized bands installed with heavy duty, high tack adhesive

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