



## *Press Release*

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# **LCC AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE PROGRAM RECEIVES DONATED AIRCRAFT**

## *Cessna twin engine to be used as maintenance training for LCC students*

LANSING – The Lansing Community College Aircraft Maintenance Program has received a Cessna T310Q N650PC twin engine 6-passenger turbo-charged plane to add to the LCC fleet.

The Cessna, fitted with custom avionics, was donated to the LCC Foundation by Mrs. Elsa Prince-Broekhuizen, owner of Wingspan, LLC, who passed it along to the College Aviation program. The plane will not be flown, but will serve as a fully functional on-ground training facility for LCC students.

LCC took delivery of the aircraft on February 18, 2010. While the plane was built in 1972, it is deemed in excellent shape, equipped with modern engines and updated equipment, including GPS, and completely functional, capable of speeds of 180 m.p.h.

“Aviation maintenance is a growth field,” said Harry Whitehead, Professor of AM&P at LCC, “and we are experiencing close to a 100 percent placement rate with our graduates. This equipment will substantially enhance our mechanics program as well as enhance the employability of those who successfully complete the program.”

The original owner of the equipment was Edgar Prince, founder of the Prince Corporation, Holland MI, who purchased the aircraft new in 1972. After a series of sales and purchases, the Cessna was returned to the Prince Corporation in 1985, where it has served the Prince Corporation until 1997, then subsequently Wingspan, LLC and managed by WestShore Aviation Management ever since.

Last year, low utilization and increasing costs caused Wingspan and WestShore to consider options for disposing of the aircraft. Mrs. Prince-Broekhuizen asked if we could donate the aircraft to a worthy cause. In December, 2009, WestShore Aviation recommended donating the

plane for aircraft maintenance training. LCC was selected based on the promise and enthusiasm demonstrated by the Aircraft Maintenance Program staff.

LCC's two-year Airframe Maintenance & Power Plant curriculum prepares students to become FAA approved mechanics qualified to keep aviation equipment in flyable condition. LCC instructors will not fly the plane, but will use it as an on-ground training plane for students.

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#### **About Lansing Community College**

*Lansing Community College is Michigan's third largest community college with more than 32,000 students attending each year. The College has more than 240 degree and certificate programs. LCC offers courses in general education for those interested in transferring to a four-year institution, career and workforce development, developmental education and personal enrichment. To meet the professional development and training needs of regional employees, the college offers customized programs for credit, non-credit and continuing education. The University Center at LCC offers students the opportunity to earn bachelor's and master's degrees from six partner universities on the downtown LCC campus. For more information, visit [www.lcc.edu](http://www.lcc.edu).*