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Aircraft Owner Feels Sky-High About His Grounded Plane

by Dori Teich, President, Designated Parking Corp.

Lou Cusimano owns, and takes pride in, his classic 1954 Cessna 195B aircraft. The New York resident has invested much time and money in this vintage aircraft, and he will do what it takes to ensure that his Cessna stays in tip-top shape. Cusimano keeps his Cessna at a nearby airstrip, tied to the asphalt tarmac.

THE PROBLEM

Strong winds are common in New York, so in order to protect Cusimano's investment from taking off on its own, it is imperative that it is well secured when not in use. Airplanes should be tied down with equipment capable of withstanding sufficient tensile forces for their particular weight category. For Cusimano's aircraft, this means tie-down anchors with strength for over 3,450 pounds.

Cusimano has had past experiences where tethering his aircraft with normal tie down devices was not satisfactory. The challenge he faced was to find a solution that will not mar or damage the tarmac, will not present a hazard to taxiing aircraft when his plane is not on site, and is capable of the full resistance that meets the aircraft weight requirements.

THE SOLUTION

"My aircraft is very important to me, and like anything of value, it requires much care," Cusimano said. "I want to know that when I am not flying my Cessna 195, it is securely stowed. For my situation, I needed something above and beyond the traditional."

After some preliminary research, Cusimano concluded that the BOLTHOLD™ Asphalt Anchor was the best way to go. He selected the SPI8 anchors due to their pull resistance, which exceeds 3,000 lbs. each when installed in 4-inch-thick asphalt.



Cessna 195B Tie-down

- Installation was completed quickly by:
- drilling holes through the asphalt and then down into the aggregate underneath;
 - filling the holes with a special grout provided by Asphalt Anchors Corp.; then
 - pushing the anchors all the way down until slightly below the asphalt.

A standard low profile eyebolt was threaded into each anchor to allow for the tie down ropes to be easily attached. If the aircraft were to be away from the tie down area for long periods of time, simply removing the eyebolt with ropes attached means the ramp area is back to a flush surface for other aircraft to taxi over.

RUDOR TEICH



Rudor (Dori) Teich is president of Designated Parking Corp., which manufactures parking barriers and asphalt anchors. Teich holds a bachelor's and a master's degree in electrical engineering yet spends more of his design time on mechanical designs than electronic ones. His professional background includes management and design of hotel room management systems, garage door controls and burglar and fire alarms. He can be reached at 973.669.8214 or by email at dori.teich@asphaltanchors.com.

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BOLTHOLD™ SP18 Anchor

"I couldn't be more satisfied," Cusimano said. "Using three Asphalt Anchors at 3,000 lbs. of resistance each, my aircraft is held in place during the highest of 'gusty' winds. The ramp area around it remains in good integrity, and the installation was easier than I had envisioned. I am confident that my plane will remain well secured."

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ABOUT DESIGNATED PARKING CORP.

Asphalt Anchors developed its first asphalt anchors when the parent company, Designated Parking Corp. (www.designatedparking.com) needed a method of mounting its car parking barriers to asphalt driveways and parking lots in 2004. Asphalt Anchors is a member of the Specialty Tools and Fasteners Distributors Association (STAFDA). Designated Parking Corp. and its principals have been designing and manufacturing award-winning, high-volume, manually and

remotely operated barriers and security systems for the automotive, commercial, industrial and residential markets since 1972. With product development, engineering and corporate functions headquartered in West Orange, New Jersey, Designated Parking's products are built at an affiliated world-class ISO Certified manufacturer in Shenzhen, China, and sold worldwide. The company's full line can be seen online at www.designatedparking.com. ■



**Designated
Parking
Corporation**

10 Ridge Road • West Orange, NJ 07052
Tel: (973) 669-8214 • Fax: (973) 669-5161
E-mail: marketing@designatedparking.com
www.asphaltanchors.com • www.designatedparking.com