



TERRY HEFFIELD
Biographical Sketch

Terry Heffield graduated from Moody Aviation with a BS degree as a Pilot and Mechanic in 1976. For the next 3.5 years he worked in industry managing a shop that repaired wrecked planes from DC-3s to Cessna 150s. During that time he had the opportunity to fly all over the Caribbean and the state of Florida bidding on repair jobs and then seeing the repairs to completion.



In 1980 he began work with JAARS, Inc, a part of Wycliffe Bible Translators. For the first couple of years, he managed the rebuilds of planes that were to be sent to foreign countries to serve Bible Translation.

During the early '80s an aircraft crashworthiness program within the missions community had begun. Terry was asked to manage the design and obtain the certification of energy absorbing seats and the associated hardware. He obtained approvals for both crashworthy seats and fire detection systems in the Cessna 185, 206, 402, Helio Courier, Piper Aztec.

In 1987 he won the Maintenance Technician of the Year for the southern region of the United States. Since then he has continued to improve the seats by providing better adjustment and further testing.

One of his biggest projects was to design the next generation of crashworthy seats for the mission field airplane called the Kodiak made by Quest Aircraft. The first customer took delivery of his plane in 2008. He also designed a number of different modifications to JAARS's Kodiaks. The first Kodiak went to Papua New Guinea (PNG) in September 2009. The second one went in October 2010 and the third was delivered in October 2011 and now there is a fourth one serving Wycliffe Bible Translation in PNG.

In March 2010 he began doing recruiting of aviation staff for JAARS as well as doing his engineering job. JAARS needs 59 people in a variety of aviation jobs.

Four years ago he obtained a STC (Supplemental Type Certificate, which is the FAA approval to install a modification) for cargo pods that look like external drop tanks for the Pilatus PC-6. JAARS has 5 of these planes & hopes to get 1 more in the near future.

At present, he is working on making a removable stretcher on JAARS R-44 helicopter. It will be used in Cameroon, where it serves three hospitals.