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DE-ICING SÝSTEMS

Why DE-ICING SYSTEM ?

- When ice, snow or frost are allowed to accumulate on aircraft surfaces and then are removed, the process is known as de-icing.
- Smaller turbine powered aircraft and reciprocating aircraft often incorporate de-ice systems rather anti-ice system
- although some aircraft my use a combination of de-ice and anti-ice for overall ice protection.

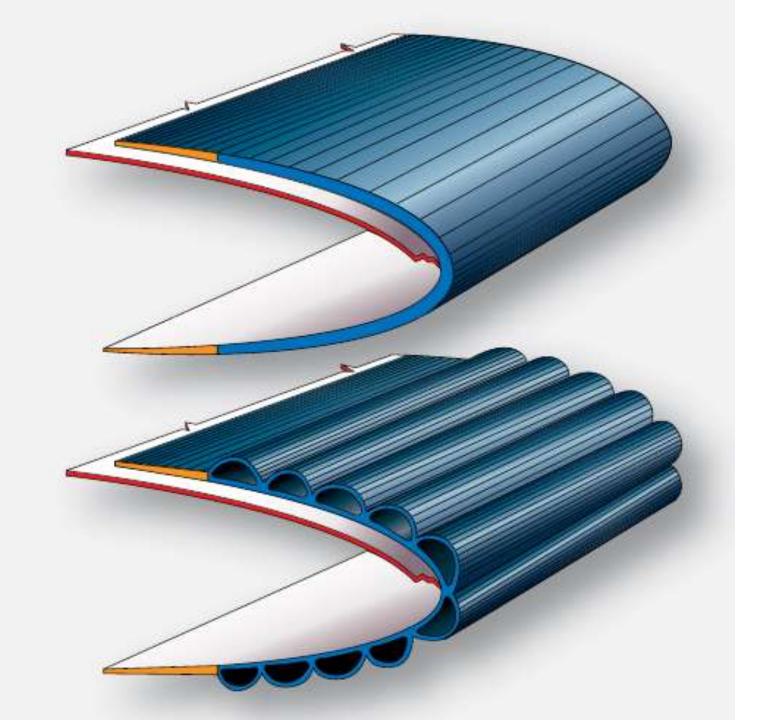
PNEUMATIC DE-ICE BOOTS

• PNEUMATIC DE-ICE BOOTS are

- Used On small turbine powered aircraft and reciprocating engine aircraft
- Used in Wings and Stabilizers
- Position: The leading edges of the wings and stabilizers

Principle

- The most common means for de-icing wings and stabilizers on small turbine powered aircraft and reciprocating engine aircraft.
- The leading edges of the wings and stabilizers have inflatable boots attached to them. The boots expand when inflated by pneumatic pressure, which breaks away ice accumulated on the boot.
- Most boots are inflated for 6 to 8 seconds. They are deflated by vacuum suction.
- The vacuum is continuously applied to hold the boots tightly against the aircraft while not in use.



CONSTRUCTION OF DE-ICE BOOTS

- De-icer boots are made of soft, pliable rubber, or rubberized fabric, and contain tubular air cells.
- The outer ply of the de-icer boot is of conductive neoprene to provide resistance to deterioration by the elements and many chemicals.
- The neoprene also provide a conductive surface to dissipate static electricity charges .
- These charges, if allowed to accumulate, would eventually discharge through the boot to the metal skin beneath, causing static interference with the radio equipment.

INSTALLATION OF DE-ICE BOOTS

- The de-icer boots are bonded with an adhesive to the leading edge of wing and tail surfaces.
- The trailing edges of this type boot are tapered to provide a smooth airfoil.
- Elimination of fairing strips, screws, and rivnuts used on older types of de-icing boots reduces the weight of the de-ice system.
- The de-icer boot air cells are connected to system pressure and vacuum lines by non-kinking flexible hose.

SOURCES OF OPERATING AIR

In Reciprocating Engine

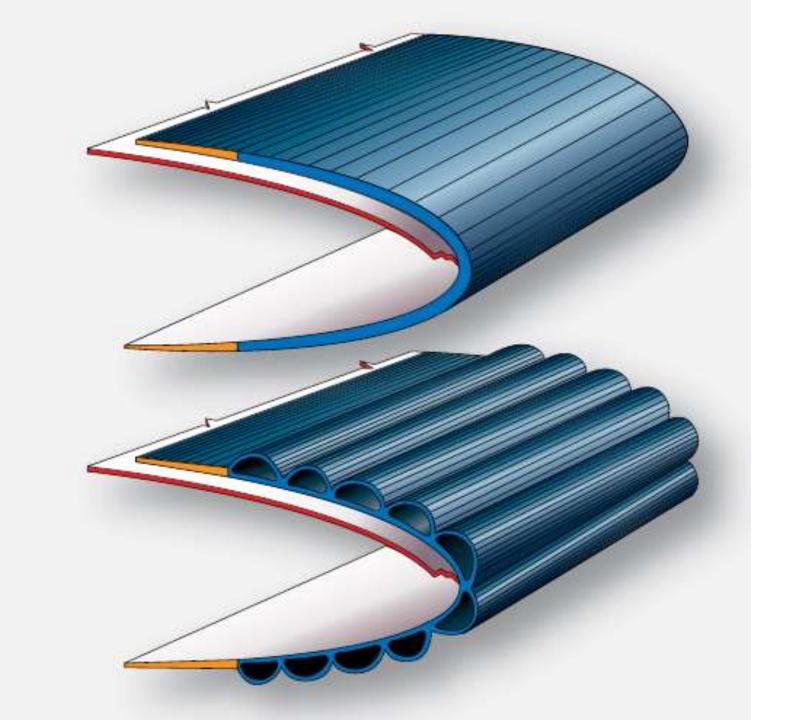
- Dedicated engine-driven air pump mounted on the accessory drive gear box of the engine.
- The suction side of the pump is used to operate the gyroscopic instruments if installed on the aircraft.
- It is also used to hold the de-ice boots tight to the aircraft when they are not inflated.
- The pressure side of the pump supplies air to inflate the de-ice boots, which breaks up ice that has formed on the wing and stabilizer leading edges.
- The pump operates continuously. Valves, regulators, and switches in the cockpit are used to control the flow of source air to the system.

In Turbine Engine

- The source of de-ice boot operating air on turbine engine aircraft is typically bleed air from the engine compressor(s).
- A relatively low volume of air on an intermittent basis is required to operate the boots.
- This has little effect on engine power enabling use of bleed air instead of adding a separate engine-driven air pump.
- Valves controlled by switches in the cockpit deliver air to the boots when requested.

RECIPROCATING ENGINE AIRCRAFT DE-ICE SYSTEMS

- General aviation reciprocating engine aircraft, especially twin-engine models, are commonly equipped with pneumatic de-icer systems.
- Rubber boots are attached with glue to the leading edges of the wings and stabilizers.
- These boots have a series of inflatable tubes.
- During operation, the tubes are inflated and deflated in an alternating cycle.
- *This* inflation and deflation causes the ice to crack and break off.
- The ice is then carried away by the airstream.
- Boots used in GA aircraft typically inflate and deflate along the length of the wing.



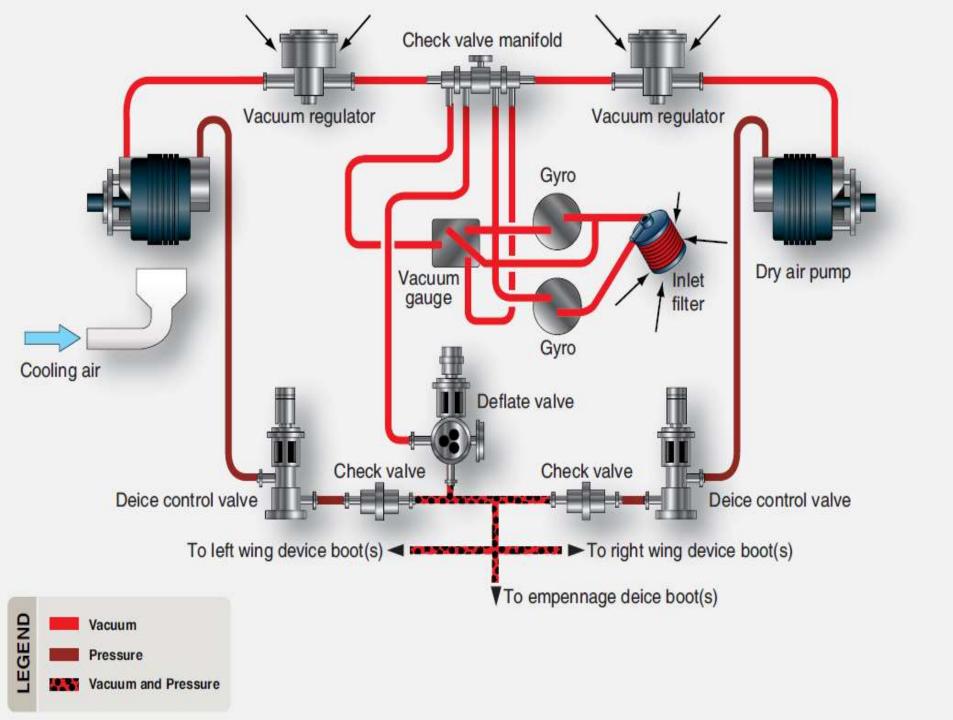
System Operation

Deicing system components

- 1. Wet-Type Engine-Driven Air Pump
- 2. Dry-Type Engine-Driven Air Pump
- 3. Oil Separator
- 4. Control Valve
- 5. Deflate Valve
- 6. Distributor Valve
- 7. Timer/Control Unit
- 8. Regulators and Relief Valves
- 9. Manifold Assembly
- **10. Inlet Filter**

Connections

- In normal flight, all of the components in the de-ice system are de-energized.
- Discharge air from the dry air pumps is dumped overboard through the de-ice control valves.
- The deflate value is open connecting the de-ice boots to the suction side of the pump through the check value manifold and the vacuum regulator.
- The gyroscopic instruments are also connected to the vacuum side of the dry air pump.
- The vacuum regulator is set to supply the optimum suction for the gyros, which is sufficient to hold the boots tightly against the airfoil surfaces.



Working

- When the switch is pushed ON, the solenoid-operated deice control valves in each nacelle open and the deflate valve energizes and closes.
- Pressurized air from the discharge side of the pumps is routed through the control valves to the de-ice boot.
- When the system reaches 17 psi, pressure switches located on the deflate valve de-energize the de-ice control valve solenoids.
- The valves close and route pump air output overboard.
- The deflate valve opens and the boots are again connected to vacuum.
- On this simple system, the pilot must manually start this inflation/deflation cycle by pushing the switch each time de-ice is required.

DE-ICE SYSTEM FOR TURBOPROP AIRCRAFT

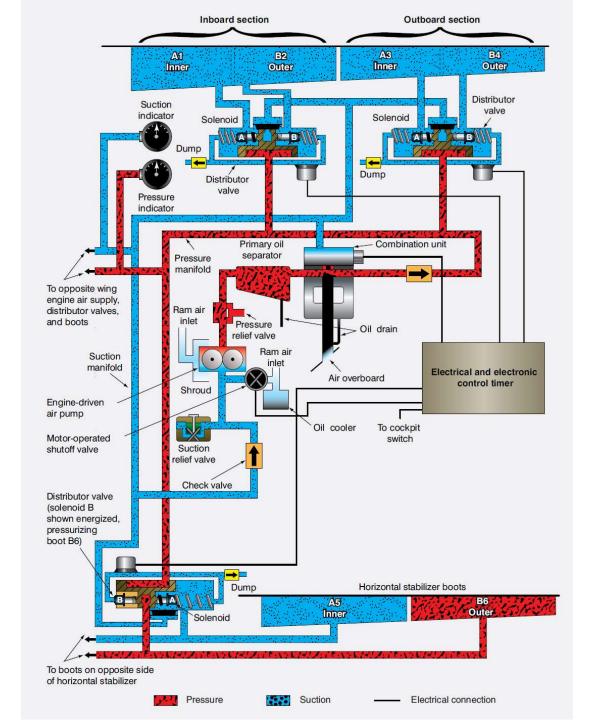
- The source of pneumatic air is engine bleed air, which is used to inflate two inboard wing boots, two outboard boots, and horizontal stabilizer boots.
- Additional bleed air is routed through the brake de-ice valve to the brakes.
- A three position switch controls the operation of the boots. This switch is spring loaded to the center OFF position.
- When ice has accumulated, the switch should be selected to the single cycle (up) position and released.

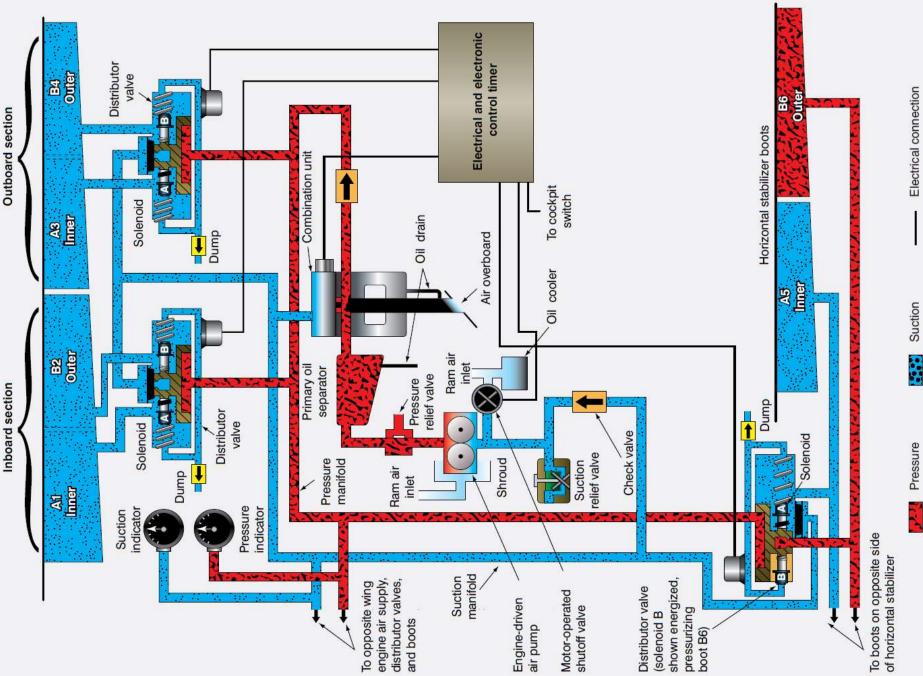
- Pressure regulated bleed air from the engine compressors supply air through bleed air flow control units and pneumatic shutoff valves to a pneumatic control assembly that inflates the wing boots.
- After an inflation period of 6 seconds, an electronic timer switches the distributor in the control assembly to deflate the wing boots and a 4 second inflation begins in the horizontal stabilizer boots.

- After these boots have been inflated and deflated, the cycle is complete, and all boots are again held down tightly against the wings and horizontal stabilizer by vacuum.
- The spring-loaded switch must be selected up again for another cycle to occur. Each engine supplies a common bleed air manifold.

- To ensure the operation of the system, if one engine is inoperative, a flow control unit with check valve is incorporated in the bleed air line from each engine to prevent the loss of pressure through the compressor of the inoperative engine.
- If the boots fail to function sequentially, they may be operated manually by selecting the DOWN position of the same de-ice cycle switch.

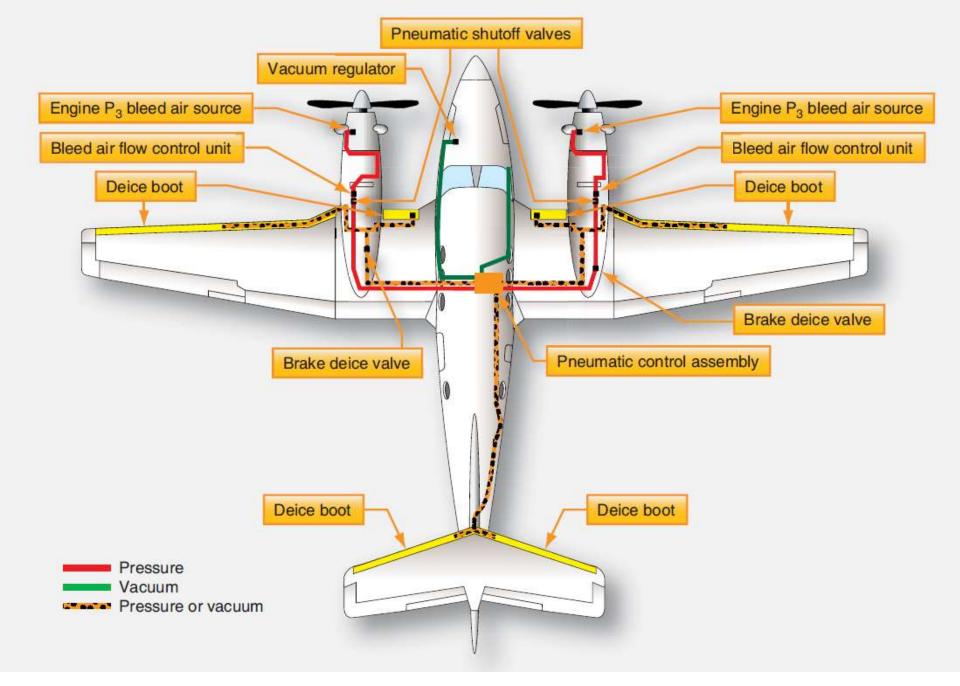
- Depressing and holding it in the manual DOWN position inflates all the boots simultaneously.
- When the switch is released, it returns to the (springloaded) off position, and each boot is deflated and held by vacuum.
- When operated manually, the boot should not be left inflated for more than 7 to 10 seconds, as a new layer of ice may begin to form on the expanded boots and become un-removable.
- If one engine is inoperative, the loss of its pneumatic pressure does not affect boot operation.
- Electric power to the boot system is required to inflate the boots in either single-cycle or manual operation.
- When electric power is lost, the vacuum holds the boots tightly against the leading edge.





Electrical connection

Suction



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O80TqSFAD2A



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O80TqSFAD2A

INSPECTION, MAINTENANCE, AND TROUBLESHOOTING

The aircraft maintenance usually consists of

- 1. Operational checks,
- 2. Adjustments,
- 3. Troubleshooting, and
- 4. Inspection.

Operational Checks

- An operational check of the system can be made by operating the aircraft engines or by using an external source of air.
- Most systems are designed with a test plug to permit ground checking the system without operating the engines.
- When using an external air source, make certain that the air pressure does not exceed the test pressure established for the system.
- Before turning the de-icing system on, observe the vacuum operated instruments.
- If no movement of the instrument pointers occurs, turn on the de-icing system.

- With the de-icer system controls in their proper positions, check the suction and pressure gauges for proper indications.
- The pressure gauge fluctuates as the de-icer tubes inflate and deflate.
- A relatively steady reading should Be maintained on the vacuum gauge.
- It should be noted that not all systems use a vacuum gauge.
- If the operating pressure and vacuum are satisfactory observe the de-icers for actuation.
- With an observer stationed outside the aircraft, check the inflation sequence to be certain that it agrees with the sequence indicated in the aircraft maintenance manual.

- Check the timing of the system through several complete cycles.
- If the cycle time varies more than is allowable, determine the difficulty and correct it.
- Inflation of the de-icers must be rapid to provide efficient de-icing.
- Deflation of the boot being observed should be completed before the next inflation cycle.



Adjustment can be done by

- Control cable linkages,
- Adjusting system pressure relief valves, and
- De-icing system vacuum(suction) relief valves.
- A pressure relief value acts as a safety device to relieve excess pressure in the event of regulator value failure.

- To adjust this valve, operate the aircraft engines and adjust a screw on the valve until the deicing pressure gauge indicates the specified pressure at which the valve should relieve.
- Vacuum relief valves are installed in a system that uses a vacuum pump to maintain constant suction during varying vacuum pump speeds.
- To adjust a vacuum relief valve, operate the engines. While watching the vacuum (suction) gauge, an assistant should adjust the suction relief valve adjusting screw to obtain the correct suction specified for the system.

Troubleshooting

Problem	Causes	Corrective action(s)
	(most of which can be identified	
	with a 343 Test Kit)	
Boots do not inflate	 Open circuit breaker 	 Reset circuit breaker
	 Faulty deflate valve 	 Check deflate valves as follows:
	Solenoid inoperable:	Solenoid inoperable:
	1. Improper voltage at solenoid	1. Correct electrical system
	2. Blocked air vent in solenoid	2. Clean with alcohol or replace
	3. Inoperative plunger	3. Clean with alcohol or replace
	Diaphragm not seated	Diaphragm not seated
	1. Blocked vent orifice located in rivet	1. Clean with .010 diameter wire and
	bottom at center of diaphragm	alcohol
	2. Dirty diaphragm seal area	2. Clean with blunt instrument and
	3. Diaphragm ruptured	alcohol
		3. Replace valve
	· Two faulty deice control valves of	 Clean or replace valve assembly as
	faulty two-stage regulators	noted above
	 Faulty check valve 	 Replace check valve
	 Relay not functioning 	 Check wiring or replace relay
	 Leak in system boots 	 Repair as needed

	Loun in system boots	riepan as needed
Slow boot inflation	 Lines blocked or disconnected 	 Check and replace lines
	 Low air pump capacity 	Replace air pump
	· One or more deice control valves	· Clean or replace valve assembly as
	not functioning properly	noted above
	 Deflate valve not fully closed 	· Clean or replace valve assembly as
	 Ball check in deflate valve 	noted above
	inoperative	· Clean check valve or replace deflate
	 Leaks in system or boots 	valve

8	Louis in ejetern er boote	19119
System will not cycle	 Pressure in system not reaching specified psi to activate pressure switch Leak in system or boots Pressure switch on deflate valve inoperative 	 Clean or replace deice control valve as noted above Clean or replace deflate valve, as noted above Repair as needed, tighten all hose connections Replace switch
Slow deflation	 Low vacuum Faulty deflate valve (indicated by temporary reduction in suction gauge reading) 	 Repair as needed Clean or replace valve assembly as noted above
No vacuum for boot hold down	 Malfunctioning deflate valve or deice valve Leak in system or boots 	 Clean or replace valve assembly as noted above Repair as needed
Boots will not deflate during cycle	 Faulty deflate valve 	 Check and replace valve
Boots appear to inflate on aircraft climb	 Vacuum source for boot hold down inoperative Lines running through pressurized cabin loose or disconnected 	 Check operation of ball check in deflate valve Check for loose or disconnected vacuum lines and repair



- During each preflight and scheduled inspection, check the de-icer boots for cuts, tears, deterioration, punctures, and security; during periodic inspections, go a little further and check de-icer components and lines for cracks.
- If weather cracking of rubber is noted, apply a coating of conductive cement. The cement, in addition to sealing the boots against weather, dissipates static electricity so that it does not puncture the boots by arcing to the metal surfaces

De-ice Boot Maintenance

- 1. Do not drag gasoline hoses over the deicers.
- 2. Keep de-icers free of gasoline, oil, grease, dirt, an other deteriorating substances.
- 3. Do not lay tools on or lean maintenance equipment against the de-icers.
- 4. Promptly repair or resurface the de-icers when abrasion or deterioration is noted.
- 5. Wrap de-ice boots in paper or canvas when storing.

Preventive maintenance can be done by

1. Cleaning

 Cleaning should ordinarily be done at the same time the aircraft is washed, using a mild soap and water solution. Grease and oil can be removed with a cleaning agent

1. Resurfacing

• The resurfacing substance is a black, conductive neoprene cement

1. Repairing.

The Ice-cream you see in ads is actually mashed potatoes because it will not melt during production







Prepared By Mr.Pankaj Salunkhe

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