

Cessna 421A, Shorting Starting Cable, ATA 8011

During starting the left engine, a submitter advises, smoke was observed coming from the louvers on the top of the left engine. The submitter shut down the engine and the smoke subsided. Inspection revealed the number two gauge starter and alternator power cables near the turbocharger were burned in half. Fourteen other wires in the same bundle were also burned in half or severely heat-damaged. The electrical fire was a result of the starter cable shorting to ground on the turbo support bracket (P/N 5155101-20). The electrical bundle had been resting on this bracket for some time until the wire insulation was chaffed through. Inspection of the other engine revealed similar chaffing and the possibility of a short.”

No pictures or graphics were included.

Part Total Time: 4,801.0 hours.