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George C. Ford

George Ford has spent decades covering business news across Eastern Iowa. Ford is a native of Lexington, Ky., but has [...]

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Updated: 20 May 2013 | 12:01 pm in [B380, Local News](#)

Storm damages jet, hangar doors at The Eastern Iowa Airport

Delta Airlines flight to Detroit affected by damage

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Straight-line winds Sunday night blew a regional jet into a boarding bridge and damaged hangar doors at The Eastern Iowa Airport in Cedar Rapids.

Kori Kaiser, airport facilities maintenance supervisor, said the 70-passenger jet operated by a contract carrier for Delta Airlines was parked when it was shoved into the jet boarding bridge about 10:45 p.m. The steel jet bridge was scratched, but the Fiberglas nose cone and aluminum access panels behind it and under the cockpit were damaged.



A regional jet owned by a contract carrier for Delta Airlines is shown after it was damaged Sunday, May 19, 2013, when straight-line winds blew the aircraft into a boarding bridge at The Eastern Iowa Airport. Delta cancelled a flight to Detroit on Monday morning and planned to have the plane inspected for the extent of the damage to the nose cone and interior components. (Kori Kaiser, The Eastern Iowa Airport)

Delta cancelled a flight to Detroit on Monday morning. Kaiser said the airline was sending a representative to assess the damage to the jet.

"The plane was moved about 10 to 15 feet," Kaiser said. "Another plane parked next to it did not move.

"The jet bridges stand up pretty well to the winds we have at the airport. They are typically

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retracted each night to prevent unauthorized boarding of the aircraft.”



(Kori Kaiser, The Eastern Iowa Airport)

Kaiser said large doors that were recently replaced on the P.S. Air hangar were damaged. There also was some roof damage at the former National Guard Armory building on 18th Street SW.

The airport control tower, which is operated by the Federal Aviation Administration, measured a peak wind speed of 78 miles per hour. Kaiser said the tower continued to

operate during the storm.

Airport Director Tim Bradshaw told the Cedar Rapids Airport Commission that a full damage assessment will be performed Monday. The airport previously sustained storm damage in August 2012.

Sunday night's storm also toppled about a dozen utility poles on airport property along the south side of 76th Avenue SW. The poles, east of Edgewood Road SW, carried electric and cable television lines.

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