

# FAA orders inspections of Boeing 737 NG planes for structural cracks

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US aviation regulators ordered inspections on Boeing 737 NG planes after Boeing discovered structural cracks on a plane in China

The Federal Aviation Administration has ordered inspections of Boeing 737 NG aircraft for structural cracks after Boeing discovered the

problem on planes undergoing modifications, the agency said Wednesday.

The mandate affects 1,911 US-registered aircraft and is expected to require about 165 planes to be inspected within seven days, the agency said. The NG is a precursor plane to the Boeing 737 MAX, which has been grounded since mid-March following two [deadly crashes](#).

The FAA said Boeing notified the agency of the problem after encountering the issue on a plane in China and that subsequent inspections showed other planes also had cracks.

The agency said the inspections can be done visually and require about an hour.

The order comes as Boeing faces stepped-up oversight from the FAA and international regulators in the wake of crashes of Lion Air and Ethiopian Airlines that together claimed 346 lives.

Boeing has targeted the [fourth quarter](#) to win approval from regulators to resume flights on the MAX, while acknowledging that the time-frame is up to regulators.

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