WE CLAIM

1. A method comprising:

inspecting an engine during a first period of time to identify damage, the engine being associated with an aircraft, wherein the aircraft is not operational during the first period of time and is not cleared for flight by a control tower of an airport or repair facility;

receiving three-dimensional data of one or more components of the engine, the three-dimensional data being generated during the first period of time;

determining, during the first period of time, whether the identified damage exceeds a threshold;

providing instructions to release the aircraft for operation in a second period of time, subsequent to the first period of time, if the identified damage does not exceed the threshold; and

inspecting the received three-dimensional data during the second period of time to measure damage.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein inspecting the received three-dimensional data comprises:

identifying a feature of the component using the three-dimensional data;

determining coordinates of the feature in the three-dimensional data; and

measuring a parameter of the feature of the component using the determined coordinates of the feature in the three-dimensional data.

3. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

receiving data comprising two-dimensional data of the component of the engine, the two-dimensional data being generated during the first period of time; and wherein inspecting the received three-dimensional data comprises:

identifying a feature of the component using the two-dimensional data;

determining coordinates of the feature in the two-dimensional data;

determining coordinates of the feature in the three-dimensional data using: the determined coordinates of the feature in the two-dimensional data; and a pre-determined transformation between coordinates in two-dimensional data and coordinates in three-dimensional data; and

measuring a parameter of the feature of the component using the determined coordinates of the feature in the three-dimensional data.

4. A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein prior to identifying the feature of the component using the two-dimensional data, the method further comprises:

identifying the feature of the component using the three-dimensional data;

determining coordinates in the three-dimensional data of a first volume bounding the coordinates of the feature;

determining coordinates of a first area in the two-dimensional data corresponding to the first volume using: the determined coordinates of the first volume in the three-dimensional data; and the predetermined transformation.

5. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein identifying the feature of the component using the two-dimensional data comprises using a subset of the two-dimensional data corresponding to the first area.

6. A method as claimed in claim 4 or 5, wherein determining coordinates in the three-dimensional data of the first volume comprises:

identifying the first volume in the three-dimensional data using: the identified feature of the component; and a three-dimensional model of the component.

7. A method as claimed in any of claims 4 to 6, wherein prior to identifying the feature of the component using the three-dimensional data, the method further comprises:

identifying a second area using the two-dimensional data of the component, the second area excluding predetermined components and/or predetermined sub-components of the engine within the two-dimensional data;

determining coordinates of a second volume in the three-dimensional data corresponding to the second area using: the determined coordinates of the second area in the two-dimensional data; and the predetermined transformation.

8. A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein identifying the feature of the component using the three-dimensional data comprises: identifying the feature

of the component using a subset of the three-dimensional data corresponding to the second volume.

9. A method as claimed in any of claims 3 to 8, further comprising: controlling storage of the measured parameter.

10. A method as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein inspecting the received three-dimensional data during the second period of time is performed by a computer.

11. A method as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein inspecting the received three-dimensional data during the second period of time is performed automatically by the computer in response to receiving the three-dimensional data.

12. A method as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein inspecting the received three-dimensional data is performed during a predetermined period of time from release of the aircraft for operation.

13. A computer program that, when executed by a computer, causes the computer to perform the method as claimed in any of the preceding claims.

14. A non-transitory computer readable storage medium comprising computer readable instructions that, when executed by a computer, causes the computer to perform the method as claimed in any of claims 1 to 12.

15. An apparatus comprising:

a controller configured to perform the method as claimed in any of claims 1 to 12.