



## MEMORANDUM of RECORD

**Ralph E. Hicks**  
**Senior Air Safety Investigator**  
**Eastern Region Aviation**

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**Date: January 14, 2015**  
**Person Contacted: Mr. Neil Ramphal (Cell [REDACTED]) – Owner of Aircraft**  
**NTSB Accident Number: ERA15FA099 – New Smyrna Beach, FL**

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This investigator interviewed Mr. Ramphal at the accident site (New Smyrna Beach, FL) and at his hangar at Edgewater, FL. He reported the following:

Prior to the accident flight, the pilot, Ms. Tabata, who was a Japanese citizen, contacted Flight Time Building LLC to purchase a block of flight time in a Cessna 152. Mr. Ramphal owned Flight Time Building LLC. The company sold "blocks" of flight time to licensed pilots, with 50 hours being the minimum-sized block. The company normally dispatches an airplane to the pilot upon completion of a ground and flight "checkout."

According to Mr. Ramphal, on the day prior to the accident, the pilot flew a local flight with an instructor, followed by a cross country flight with a safety pilot, who was an instructor-in-training. He reported that the pilot was not "signed off" for solo flight after the flights on January 12. On the day of the accident, the accident pilot, Ms. Tabata, flew an undetermined number of local, solo flights without the knowledge of Flight Time Building personnel. She possessed the keys to N757ZM since she had flown it on the previous day with the safety pilot. She refueled the airplane at her own expense and initiated the accident flight, which was a local, night flight in the traffic pattern at X50.

Mr. Ramphal estimated the total airframe time on N7572M to be about 12,000 hours.