# RECORD OF CONVERSATION

January 4, 2012

## NTSB Accident Number: ERA12FA127, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

On this date, I spoke by telephone with the captain, Mr. Jeffrey Cole, to augment his written statement.

Mr. Cole stated that the whole event was still a blur but that he thought the airplane had a flap misconfiguration. He also had considered a thrust reverser deployment, but there was no feel to that effect. There were also no annunciator messages, warning lights or vibrations, and with the crew wearing noise-cancelling headsets, they did not hear any unusual sounds.

Mr. Cole also noted that the hold down switch was not utilized because, with the belief of a flap misconfiguration, he wanted to be able to use the spoilers to assist in the landing. As he reduced power, the right wing would start to come back up, and as he added differential thrust to maintain altitude, airspeed would increase and the right wing would then fall again. Mr. Cole found himself going through the same series of actions over and over again to maintain flight, and as he did so, he saw that the airplane was gradually lining up with runway 13 through the right window. As the airplane came around toward the runway, the Mr. Cole felt that he only had a "one time shot," and did the best he could to get the airplane onto the runway.

When asked if he or the copilot pulled the aileron/spoiler disconnect T-handle, Mr. Cole stated that he didn't, as he was trying to control the airplane. He also didn't recall seeing the first officer do it in flight either. He did note however, that he thought it possible that the first officer may have hit the switch with his shoe when they exited the airplane. The first officer's shoes had neoprene soles, and one of the soles had been ripped off during the "non-standard" exit.

Mr. Cole further noted that it was fortunate that the event did not occur during night IFR conditions, and that the first officer indicated to him that he thought roll angles exceeded 60 degrees.


Paul R. Cox
Senior Air Safety Investigator