



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Central Region – Arlington, Texas

Record of Conversation

Person: Captain Chuck Scott, pilot/witness

Subject: – CEN11LA573AB

In a telephone conversation, Mr. Scott (call sign Coyote) stated that he was the only pilot flying that day to witness the collision between an RV-6 and RV-8 during a practice formation flight for an upcoming airshow. He said that he and the pilot of the RV-6 were moving into the trail position behind the RV-8 and were approximately 2,000 to 2,500 feet above ground level (agl) in level flight. The RV-6 was supposed to be the last airplane in this formation, but instead moved directly behind the RV-8. Mr. Scott thought that maybe the pilot in the RV-6 forgot which slot he was suppose to take, so he let the pilot of the RV-6 have the position and then he moved behind the RV-6. Shortly after, from a distance of about 30 feet away, he observed the RV-6 drift right under and then climb up into the RV-8. He said the collision was not violent, even though it caused a large gas explosion/fireball in the RV-8's engine compartment. Mr. Scott was unsure if the collision was hard enough that it would have injured the pilot of the RV-6. He saw the two airplanes separate and the RV-6 slowly nosed over until it was in an almost 60 degree nose down descent toward the ground. Mr. Scott said the damage to the RV-6 was minimal and it appeared to be "flyable." He said the pilot of the RV-6 "didn't seem in control of his airplane" prior to the collision and thought he might have been incapacitated. However, he did not observe anything unusual with the pilot of the RV-6 that would have indicated a possible medical condition prior to or during the practice flight.

Leah D. Yeager

Sr. Air Safety Investigator

National Transportation Safety Board