



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Office of Aviation Safety
Western Pacific Region

April 28, 2010

AIRFRAME EXAMINATION

WPR10LA195

This document contains 0 embedded photos.

A. ACCIDENT

Location: Borrego Springs, California
Date: April 8, 2010
Aircraft: Snow Rocket F1, N28VS
NTSB Investigator-in-Charge: Joshua Cawthra

B. EXAMINATION PARTICIPANTS:

Joshua Cawthra
Aviation Accident Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board
Federal Way, WA 98003

C. SUMMARY

Examination of the recovered airframe and engine was conducted on June 14 and 15, 2010 at the facilities of Air Transport, Phoenix, Arizona. No evidence of preimpact mechanical malfunction was noted during the examination of the recovered airframe and engine.

D. DETAILS OF THE INVESTIGATION

1.0 Airframe Examination

The wreckage was examined at the facilities of Aircraft Recovery Services, Pear Blossom, California, on April 28, 2010, by the Safety Board investigator-in-charge. The examination of the airframe revealed that the elevator flight control system exhibited numerous areas of separations from the aft control stick to the elevator control surface. All areas of separations exhibited signatures consistent with overload. The forward and aft control sticks were found separated from the control column. The interconnected control column, portions of the separated forward and aft control sticks, elevator control servo, and portion of control rod were removed from the wreckage and subsequently sent to the NTSB Materials Laboratory, Washington, D.C. for further examination. The upper portion of the forward control stick was not located.

Submitted by: Joshua Cawthra