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Eastern Region Aviation

Date: 12/19/2023
Subject: ERA24LA064
Contact: Mike Toal, pilot

Below is a summary of a phone interview with Mike Toal on 12/19/2023 regarding accident ERA24LA064.

Mr. Toal was asked who was the PIC for the accident flight, Mr. Toal responded that Rick (Pugh) was the PIC for the accident flight. Mr. Toal was then asked which pilot was the pilot manipulating the controls, Mr. Toal responded that both of them were manipulating the controls at the time of the hard landing. Mr. Toal also stated that he was the pilot that initiated the turn back to the airport. Mr. Toal was then asked who was the pilot manipulating the controls for takeoff, he responded that he was the one manipulating the controls for the takeoff. Mr. Toal was then asked if there was any positive transfer of controls from one pilot to the other, he responded that there was no positive transfer of controls between the two pilots.

Mr. Toal was asked about the turnback to the airport and how steep of a bank angle he believed they were in. He responded that he did not remember the exact angle of bank, but they were only 200 to 300-ft above the ground when they initiated the turn and that it would have necessitated a sharp turn to return to the airport. Mr. Toal was then asked if they were still in a bank when the aircraft began to sink, and he responded that he could not remember exactly if they were still in a bank. Mr. Toal did remember that prior to contact with the runway, the aircraft was level.

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