



The National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Aviation Safety
Central Region
Memorandum for the Record
Airframe Examination
Findings
CEN19FA270
New Orleans, Louisiana
August 16, 2019

The airplane was a 1983 Pitts, model S2B factory built, tandem seat, tailwheel biplane. Serial Number 5027. Total airframe time, as of its most recent annual inspection on September 2, 2018, was 2,731 hours. A review of the airframe maintenance logbooks did not show any uncorrected or outstanding mechanical issues.

- Evidence at the accident site showed that the airplane impacted the ground about 45-degrees nose down, bearing about 355-degrees magnetic, about .8 miles south of the New Orleans Lakefront Airport (NEW). A steel fence, railroad tracks, and power lines were adjacent to the crash site. There were depressions in the ground under the nose, and fuselage.
- A post-impact fire consumed most of the airplane structure, cockpit, and fabric covered flight control surfaces. Only remnants of the tube structure remained discernable. The ground surrounding the airplane wreckage was scorched.
- Flight control continuity was established from all flight control surface attach points to the cockpit control attach points. Separations in the flight control tubes and disruptions in the flight control cables were consistent with overload and/or first responder actions. Some disruptions were caused by melting in the fire.

Date & Time: Sat. Aug 17, 2019, 14:11:45 CDT
Position: +030.025473° / -090.030213°
Altitude: 14ft
Datum: WGS-84
Azimuth/Bearing: 183° S03W 3253mils (True)
Elevation Angle: -09.8°
Horizon Angle: +00.9°
Zoom: 1X



Date & Time: Sat, Aug 17, 2019, 14:12:42 CDT
Position: +030.025288° / -090.030165°
Altitude: 15ft
Datum: WGS-84
Azimuth/Bearing: 355° N05W 6311mils (True)
Elevation Angle: -06.1°
Horizon Angle: +00.8°
Zoom: 1X



Date & Time: Sat, Aug 17, 2019, 14:12:01 CDT
Position: +030.025416° / -090.030284°
Altitude: 12ft
Datum: WGS-84
Azimuth/Bearing: 125° S55E 2222mils (True)
Elevation Angle: -12.4°
Horizon Angle: +00.5°
Zoom: 1X



Alexander Lemishko

Senior Air Safety Investigator
NTSB Central Region Aviation