



National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Aviation Safety – Central Region

Interview Summary: Mike Waytashek, Pilot – CEN20CA177

Date: May 20, 2020

Location: via Telephone

Interviewer: Courtney Liedler, NTSB - Denver

Interviewee: Mike Waytashek

During the Interview, Mr. Waytashek stated the following:

Mr. Waytashek stated he did not have a pilot's license; he was unable to get one due to health problems. He also said did not have an airframe and powerplant license, but he had worked on cars for years.

He had just finished rebuilding the airplane. He stated the airplane flew great before he took it apart, but he was replacing dented parts. That morning he had completed the last of the repair work on the instrument panel, fastening tie wires and other electrical items. He was taking the airplane for a test flight. He stated he intended to hover 2 to 3 ft over the runway in a "touch and go" scenario. The airplane "jumped up" 15ft off the ground after adding power. He also explained the airplane does not take off like a normal airplane, it pops off the ground. The airplane began drifting off the runway and he attempted to get it back to center. He then increased to full power and attempted to complete a go-around. About 100 ft agl, the airplane went into hard left bank. He input right aileron, but he was not able to get out of the bank and the airplane crashed. Mr. Waytashek stated he heard a sound behind him like a pop-rivet broke, but there are no pop-rivets on the airplane.

He stated it was a "nice calm day." He explained he was not sure what went wrong. He was not sure if it was a control issue or something else. He said he did know there was nothing wrong with the engine, he had completed numerous run-ups prior to takeoff and there were no problems.

Mr. Waytashek stated he had about 6 to 6.5 hours of flight time on the accident airplane. He also owned a single-seat light sport airplane that he has 20 to 30 hours flying. He explained he had received some pilot training in a Cessna about 30 years prior.