



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Burlington, Vermont Accident Number: ERA20CA224

Date & Time: June 22, 2020, 15:15 Local Registration: N7955V

Aircraft: Cessna 180 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that he was performing touch-and-go landings. While performing a three-point landing on the center of the runway, a gust of wind struck the airplane from the right. The airplane initially swerved slightly, then rapidly to the right and the left wing contacted the ground. The pilot then taxied the airplane back to the ramp uneventfully. The left wing and elevator were substantially damaged during the accident. The pilot stated there were no mechanical malfunctions or failures of the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

The recorded wind conditions at the time of the accident included a 50° right crosswind at 7 knots.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's failure to maintain directional control during landing roll in crosswind conditions.

Findings

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Environmental issues Crosswind - Response/compensation

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)	
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	57,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	February 5, 2020
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	December 23, 2019
Flight Time:	323.3 hours (Total, all aircraft), 133.3 hours (Total, this make and model), 4.5 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4.5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2.5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Timerana and an analysis			
Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N7955V
Model/Series:	180 H	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1967	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18051855
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	September 19, 2010 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4053.6 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-470 SERIES
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	230 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	17:54 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 7000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	200°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.87 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	33°C / 15°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:	Burlington, VT (BTV)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	
Destination:	Burlington, VT (BTV)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	12:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Burlington Intl BTV	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt;Concrete
Airport Elevation:	334 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	15	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	8319 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	44.470832,-73.151664

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Boggs, Daniel
Additional Participating Persons:	Mark Farrell; FAA; Dallas, TX
Original Publish Date:	May 5, 2021
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=101477

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 United States Code section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 United States Code section 1154(b) is available here.

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