



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: PHILLIPS, Maine Accident Number: IAD98LA078

Date & Time: July 9, 1998, 13:00 Local Registration: N6191V

Aircraft: Mastopietro RANS S12 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** 2 Serious

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

### **Analysis**

The student pilot was cruising at 400 feet AGL, photographing fields, when the engine initially quit. He performed the emergency procedures for a loss of engine power, the engine restarted, and he tried to climb, but the engine quit a second time. A forced landing was then performed to a hay field. The wreckage was examined by an FAA Inspector. The examination revealed the linkage that connected the oil feed line to the uncertificated two cycle engine had separated.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: Loss of engine power due to a separated oil line. A related factor was the unsuitable field.

### **Findings**

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER

Phase of Operation: CRUISE

**Findings** 

1. (C) LUBRICATING SYSTEM, OIL LINE - SEPARATION

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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING

Findings
2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - NONE SUITABLE

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### **Factual Information**

On July 9, 1998, at 1300 eastern daylight time, a homebuilt Rans S12, N6191V, was substantially damaged when it collided with terrain during a forced landing near Phillips, Maine. The certificated student pilot and passenger were seriously injured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed and a flight plan was not filed. The local, personal flight, was conducted under 14 CFR Part 91, and originated at a private grass strip in Phillips, Maine.

The student pilot reported that he was cruising at 400 feet AGL, photographing fields, when the engine initially quit. He performed the emergency procedures for a loss of engine power, the engine restarted, and he tried to climb, but the engine quit a second time. A forced landing was then performed to a hay field.

The wreckage was examined by an FAA Inspector. The examination revealed the linkage that connected the oil feed line to the uncertificated two cycle engine had separated.

The student pilot reported 40 hours of total flight experience including four hours in make and model.

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Student	Age:	40,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medicalno waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 3, 1997
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	40 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4 hours (Total, this make and model), 23 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

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# **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	Mastopietro	Registration:	N6191V
Model/Series:	RANS S12 RANS S12	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	0892259
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 21, 1997 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	975 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	115 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	190 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	DOUGLAS LISHERNESS	Rated Power:	65 Horsepower
Operator:	RANDY D WALKER	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

# Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Night/dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	BGR ,192 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	75 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	12:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	90°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	26°C / 12°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	(NONE)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	10:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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# **Airport Information**

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced landing

# Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Drake, Beverley	
Additional Participating Persons:	SANDY TAYLOR; PORTLAND , ME	
Original Publish Date:	March 31, 2000	
Last Revision Date:		
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>	
Note:		
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=43182	

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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