

# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: MINOT, North Dakota Accident Number: CHI01LA040

Date & Time: November 18, 2000, 16:05 Local Registration: N562GS

Aircraft: Cessna 150K Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Instructional

### **Analysis**

The instructor pilot said that the "winds reported on prebrief were 290 [degrees] at 24 [knots]. She said that they were given taxi instructions to runway 31 at the Minot International Airport, "[taxiway] f, R/W (runway) 8, R (right) on [taxiway] c", and "after turning R (right), keep left on [the] T/W (taxiway). The instructor pilot said that after executing the instructions, "slush was encountered on the left side. That, coupled with a sudden increase in wind speed - gust, made the airplane skid to the left ... The nose sank into a snow bank." As they were preparing to exit the airplane, the instructor pilot said, "the nose submerged further and the tail moved upwards progressively till the aircraft laid upside down." An examination of the airplane revealed no anomalies. At 1605 cst, the local weather observation at the Minot International Airport reported winds of 290 degrees at 24 knots.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the student pilot's inability to maintain aircraft control on the ground. Factors relating to the accident were the high winds, the slush-covered taxiway, the snowbank, inadequate preflight planning by the flight instructor, and the instructor pilot's failure to take remedial action.

#### **Findings**

Occurrence #1: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER

Phase of Operation: TAXI - TO TAKEOFF

#### Findings

- 1. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL INADEQUATE DUAL STUDENT
- 2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION HIGH WIND
- 3. (F) AIRPORT FACILITIES, RUNWAY/LANDING AREA CONDITION SLUSH COVERED
- 4. (F) AIRPORT FACILITIES, RUNWAY/LANDING AREA CONDITION SNOWBANK
- 5. (F) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION INADEQUATE PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)
- 6. (F) REMEDIAL ACTION NOT PERFORMED PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)

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#### **Factual Information**

On November 18, 2000, at 1605 central standard time (cst), a Cessna 150K, N562GS, operated by a commercial pilot, sustained substantial damage when it was flipped over in a crosswind while taxiing to runway 31 (7,493 feet by 150 feet, dry concrete) at the Minot International Airport, Minot, North Dakota. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time of the accident. The instructional flight was being conducted under 14 CFR Part 91. No flight plan was on file. The instructor pilot and dual student on board the airplane reported no injuries. The local flight was originating at the time of the accident.

In her written statement, the instructor pilot said that the "winds reported on prebrief were 290 [degrees] at 24 [knots]." She said that they were given taxi instructions, "[taxiway] f, R/W (runway) 8, R (right) on [taxiway] c", and "after turning R (right), keep left on [the] T/W (taxiway)." The instructor pilot said that after executing the instructions, "slush was encountered on the left side. That, coupled with a sudden increase in wind speed - gust, made the A/C (aircraft) skid to the left ... The nose sank into a snow bank ... We were nose down for a couple of seconds." As they were preparing to exit the airplane, the instructor pilot said, "the nose submerged further and the tail moved upwards progressively till the A/C (aircraft) laid upside down."

In his written statement, the student pilot said that while turning on to taxiway "c", he put in wind corrections for a right tailwind and made his turn to the left side of the taxiway. The student pilot said that a gust of wind pushed the airplane off of the taxiway. The left main and nose gear were off the prepared surface. "We proceeded to shut down the engine and another gust of wind flipped the plane over."

A Federal Aviation Administration inspector examined the airplane at Minot International Airport. Both wings were bent aft at the roots. The airplane's fuselage showed numerous bends and wrinkles. Flight control continuity was confirmed. An examination of the airplane's engine, engine controls, and other systems revealed no anomalies.

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#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	21,Female
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medicalno waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	April 7, 1999
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	505 hours (Total, all aircraft), 400 hours (Total, this make and model), 420 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 95 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 30 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N562GS
Model/Series:	150K 150K	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	15071509
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	November 14, 2000 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1600 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-200-A
Registered Owner:	CURTIS FLYING SERVICE, INC.	Rated Power:	100 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

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### Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	MOT ,1715 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:05 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	80°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Unknown	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 7000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	24 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	290°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	35°C / 35°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:	(MOT)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	00:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class D

## **Airport Information**

Airport:	MINOT INTERNATIONAL ARPT MOT	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:	1715 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	48.229488,-101.290061(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Bowling, David	
Additional Participating Persons:	RICHARD D KABANUCK; FARGO , ND	
Original Publish Date:	October 23, 2001	
Last Revision Date:		
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>	
Note:	The NTSB traveled to the scene of this accident.	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=50669	

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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