



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Glendale, Arizona	<b>Accident Number:</b>	LAX01LA155
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	April 22, 2001, 14:26 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N66033
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Cessna 180K	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

During landing the airplane collided with a runway marker sign. The pilot stated that he lost directional control due to a sudden gust of wind. The closest weather reporting station was at Phoenix Sky Harbor airport about 17 statute miles east of Glendale airport, and reported the wind to be 120 at 4 knots with no gusts.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's loss of directional control during the landing roll resulting in a ground loop/swerve and collision with a runway marker sign.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

### Findings

1. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - ENCOUNTERED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

3. OBJECT - AIRPORT SIGN/MARKER

## Factual Information

On April 22, 2001, at 1426 mountain standard time, a Cessna 180K, N66033, collided with a runway marker while landing in Glendale, Arizona. The airplane sustained substantial damage; however, the certificated airline transport pilot, the sole occupant, was not injured. The personal flight was being operated under 14 CFR Part 91, and originated from Corona, California, about 1200 Pacific daylight time. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time and no flight plan had been filed.

The pilot reported that he was making a wheel landing and was in the process of lowering the tail when the airplane drifted off the right side of runway 19. The right horizontal stabilizer struck a runway marker. The pilot added power and aborted the landing. On the second approach he landed without incident.

A post accident inspection of the airplane revealed that the right horizontal stabilizer and elevator were crushed and partially separated from the empennage.

The closest weather station was Phoenix Sky Harbor airport about 17 statute miles to the east of Glendale airport, and reported the winds to be 120 degrees at 4 knots.

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Airline transport; Flight instructor	<b>Age:</b>	51, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 1 With waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	October 28, 1999
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	June 16, 2000
<b>Flight Time:</b>	12500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 150 hours (Total, this make and model), 11000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 120 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 50 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Cessna	<b>Registration:</b>	N66033
<b>Model/Series:</b>	180K	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	18052906
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	February 8, 2001 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2950 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	84 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	1240 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Continental
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-470L
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	Bruce A. Nelson	<b>Rated Power:</b>	230 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	PHX	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>	13:56 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	4 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	120°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.13 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	19°C / 5°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Corona, CA (AJO )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Glendale, AZ (GEU )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	Unknown
<b>Departure Time:</b>	12:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class D

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Glendale Municipal GEU	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	19	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	Unknown
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	5350 ft / 75 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	33.527221,-112.29528

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Crispin, Robert
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Steve D D'Urso; FAA Flight Standards District Office; Scottsdale, AZ
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	October 24, 2002
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	The NTSB traveled to the scene of this accident.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=52112">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=52112</a>

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