



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Lawrenceville, Georgia Accident Number: ATL07CA059

Date & Time: March 24, 2007, 20:20 Local Registration: N8384K

Aircraft: Stinson 108 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 4 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The airplane veered off the runway and ground looped. The pilot stated he made a visual approach to runway 25 and touched down on the main gear. The winds were calm. On touchdown the airplane veered to the left and departed the runway onto the grass. The airplane continued in a ground loop to the left before coming to a stop. The pilot stated he did not experience any mechanical problems with the airplane. Examination of the airplane revealed the right wing tip, right aileron tip, right wing root, right elevator tip, right main landing gear, and tail wheel were damaged.

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 on landing roll out resulting in a ground loop.

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

Factual Information

The pilot stated he was conducting a VFR personal flight at night with three passengers. They departed Lawrenceville, Georgia, and flew around the local area before returning to the airport. The pilot stated he made a visual approach to runway 25 and touched down on the main gear. The winds were calm. On touchdown the airplane veered to the left and departed the runway onto the grass. The airplane continued in a ground loop to the left before coming to a stop. The pilot stated he did not experience any mechanical problems with the airplane. Examination of the airplane revealed the right wing tip, right aileron tip, right wing root, right elevator tip, right main landing gear, and tail wheel were damaged.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	59,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 1, 2006
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 1, 2006
Flight Time:	1167 hours (Total, all aircraft), 315 hours (Total, this make and model), 999 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Stinson	Registration:	N8384K
Model/Series:	108	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	1354
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	October 1, 2006 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2230 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	22 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2430 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Franklin
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	6A4-150-B3
Registered Owner:	Barry A. Bates	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

meteorological information	<u> </u>		
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Night
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KLZU,1061 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	20:45 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.3 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	17°C / 11°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipit	ation	
Departure Point:	Lawrenceville, GA (KLZU)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Lawrenceville, GA (KLZU)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	19:32 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	Gwinnett County Briscoe Field KLZU	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1061 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	25	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	6000 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	3 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	4 None	Latitude, Longitude:	33.978054,-83.962219

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Smith, Carrol
Additional Participating Persons:	Michael A Lozano; College Park FSDO-11
Original Publish Date:	June 27, 2007
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=65477

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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