

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Talkeetna, Alaska Accident Number: ANC08CA066

Date & Time: May 11, 2008, 11:57 Local Registration: N323KT

Aircraft: de Havilland DHC-2 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Hard landing **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Positioning

Analysis

The commercial certificated pilot was landing a wheel ski-equipped airplane at the conclusion of a positioning flight on a hard surface runway. The director of operations for the operator reported that the airplane bounced on the right main landing gear wheel during the initial flare/touchdown. As the airplane made runway contact with both main wheels a second time, the wheels appeared to be locked, producing skid marks on the runway. The airplane nosed down, and the propeller struck the runway. The airplane fell back onto the tailwheel, which resulted in a broken tailwheel strut, and structural buckling of the aft fuselage bulkhead. The director of operations reported that the airplane did not have a mechanical malfunction, and said that the pilot may have had his feet on the brakes when the airplane touched down the second time.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadvertent activation of the main landing gear brakes during the recovery from a bounced landing.

Findings

Personnel issues	Incorrect action performance - Pilot
Aircraft	Brake - Unnecessary use/operation

Aircraft Bulkheads (main fuselage) - Damaged/degraded

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Hard landing (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Nose over/nose down

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	67,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; 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 2	Last FAA Medical Exam:	April 1, 2008
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	9000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1600 hours (Total, this make and model), 12 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	de Havilland	Registration:	N323KT
Model/Series:	DHC-2	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	1022
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel; Ski/wheel	Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Pratt & Whitney
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	R-985-AN-14B
Registered Owner:	Rust Properties LLC	Rated Power:	450 Horsepower
Operator:	Rust's Flying Service Inc.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand air taxi (135)
Operator Does Business As:	K2 Aviation	Operator Designator Code:	ERHA

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PATK,358 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	11:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 10000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	230°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.62 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	12°C / -1°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Kahiltna Base, AK	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Company VFR
Destination:	Talkeetna, AK (PATK)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	Talkeetna PATK	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	18	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3500 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	62.320556,-150.093612

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Erickson, Scott
Additional Participating Persons:	
Original Publish Date:	June 30, 2008
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=68009

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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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