

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Burnsville, North Carolina Accident Number: NYC08CA188

Date & Time: May 22, 2008, 09:15 Local Registration: N522DJ

Aircraft: Pilatus PC-12 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot was landing the Pilatus PC-12 on runway 32, a 2,900-foot-long, 50-foot-wide, asphalt runway, at an airport located in a mountainous area. After touchdown, the right wing lifted up, and the airplane became airborne again. The pilot flew back toward the center of the runway and touched down again; however, a gust of wind caused the airplane to veer to the left. The airplane's left wing was substantially damaged when it struck an embankment off the left side of the runway. The airplane subsequently came to rest on the embankment, approximately 150 feet prior to the end of the runway. The pilot reported that he did not experience any mechanical malfunctions of the airplane. Winds reported at an airport located about 39 miles northeast of the accident site, about the time of the accident, were from 300 degrees at 18 knots, gusting to 26 knots.

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 while landing. Contributing to the accident was the gusty wind conditions.

Findings

Environmental issues Gusts - Contributed to outcome

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Environmental issues (general) - Not specified

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)	
Landing-landing roll	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)	

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	45,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 1, 2007
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	March 1, 2007
Flight Time:	3790 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1040 hours (Total, this make and model), 3580 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 150 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 45 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Pilatus	Registration:	N522DJ
Model/Series:	PC-12	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	539
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	8
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 1, 2008 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	9920 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Turbo prop
Airframe Total Time:	2002 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Pratt & Whitney
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	PT6A-67B
Registered Owner:	Epps Aviation / Pilatus Center South	Rated Power:	1200 Horsepower
Operator:	Jeffrey S, Wilson	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:	JW Pilot Services, LLC	Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	TNB,3120 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	39 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	09:22 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	60°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	18 knots / 26 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	300°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.88 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	13°C / 2°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Atlanta, GA (PDK)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	Burnsville, NC (2NC0)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	08:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	Mountain Air 2NC0	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	4432 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	32	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2900 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

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:	35.86861,-82.341667

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Schiada, Luke
Additional Participating Persons:	Lewis Sain; FAA/FSDO; Charlotte, NC
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=68062

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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