



AVIATION



HIGHWAY



MARINE



RAILROAD



PIPELINE

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Winter Haven, Florida	Accident Number:	ERA09CA024
Date & Time:	October 18, 2008, 13:15 Local	Registration:	N4929R
Aircraft:	LANGE FLUGZEUGBAU GMBH E1 ANTARES	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Runway incursion veh/AC/person	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot was preparing his self-launching glider for a local flight at the uncontrolled airport. As he approached the hold short line for runway 11, he announced his position and intentions on the common traffic advisory frequency. He entered the runway and commenced the takeoff roll. At 40 knots, he observed another airplane taking off on runway 29 (opposite direction). He veered the glider to the right into the grass, and the landing gear struck a gopher hole. The right wing struck a runway sign and the glider came to rest. The glider pilot asked the other pilot if he heard his takeoff transmission, and the other pilot replied no, he did not have a radio in his airplane. A crown in the runway does not allow a full view of opposing traffic on runway 11/29. After the accident, the pilot reported that his glider club will post a marshaller with a radio with full view of the runway to provide an "all clear" before takeoff.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The failure of the pilot of the other airplane to announce his intentions prior to takeoff, resulting in a runway incursion. Contributing to the accident was the limited forward visibility due to the runway slope.

Findings

Personnel issues	Lack of communication - Pilot of other aircraft
Environmental issues	(general) - Effect on operation
Environmental issues	Rough terrain - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Runway incursion veh/AC/person (Defining event)
Takeoff-rejected takeoff	Runway excursion
Takeoff-rejected takeoff	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	67, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Single
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine; Glider; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	December 10, 2007
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	December 6, 2007
Flight Time:	3250 hours (Total, all aircraft), 192 hours (Total, this make and model), 3000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 76 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	LANGE FLUGZEUGBAU GMBH	Registration:	N4929R
Model/Series:	E1 ANTARES	Aircraft Category:	Glider
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	33E31
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - N/A	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 25, 2008 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1452 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1
Airframe Total Time:	192 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	LANGE FLUGZEUGBAU
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	LE 42
Registered Owner:	BUCHANAN ROGER N	Rated Power:	47 Horsepower
Operator:	BUCHANAN ROGER N	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	GIF, 145 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	12:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 4900 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	300°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	29°C / 16°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Winter Haven, FL (GIF)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Winter Haven, FL (GIF)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	13:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	Gilbert Field GIF	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	140 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	11	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4001 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	28.062778,-81.753051(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Ralph
Additional Participating Persons:	Frank Schaffer; FAA/FSDO; Orlando, FL
Original Publish Date:	January 22, 2009
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=69322

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