

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Rock Springs, Wyoming Accident Number: WPR09CA067

Date & Time: December 27, 2008, 12:30 Local Registration: N890FE

Aircraft: Cessna 208B Aircraft Damage: Substantial

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

Flight Conducted Under: Part 135: Air taxi & commuter - Non-scheduled

Analysis

The operator reported that the pilot taxied the high-wing airplane from the ramp along the parallel taxiway to the active runway (27) with a quartering tailwind. He reported that when the pilot initiated a turn to the right at the taxiway intersection, the airplane did not respond to the control inputs and continued straight ahead. The pilot applied full right brake and rudder; however, the airplane continued to track forward and exited the hard surface taxiway. The airplane continued off the taxiway and traveled an additional 80 feet through rough terrain before it came to rest in a nose-down attitude. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the right wing. Winds at the time of the accident were from 260 degrees at 27 knots, gusting to 38 knots. No preaccident mechanical malfunctions or failures were reported with the control system or brakes.

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 control of the airplane while taxiing. Contributing to the accident were the gusty winds.

Findings

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Environmental issues Gusts - Response/compensation

Environmental issues Rough terrain - Not specified

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Taxi-to runway Loss of control on ground (Defining event)	
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport	Age:	32,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; 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 single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	September 2, 2008
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	November 1, 2008
Flight Time:	5255 hours (Total, all aircraft), 112 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N890FE
Model/Series:	208B	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	208B0219
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	November 13, 2008 AAIP	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	8785 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Turbo prop
Airframe Total Time:	10062 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	PT6A SERIES
Registered Owner:	FEDERAL EXPRESS CORPORATION	Rated Power:	500 Horsepower
Operator:	Corporate Air	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Supplemental, On-demand air taxi (135)

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KRKS,6764 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	11:54 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	270°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 10000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	27 knots / 38 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	260°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	-11°C / -16°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Rock Springs, WY (KRKS)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	Casper, WY (KCRP)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Rock Springs-Sweetwater County KRKS	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	6760 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	27	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	10000 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	41.594165,-109.065002(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hogenson, Dennis
Additional Participating Persons:	Robert Kirkwood; FAA FSFO; Casper, WY
Original Publish Date:	April 15, 2009
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=73143

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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