



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Glendale, Arizona Accident Number: WPR09CA257

Date & Time: May 20, 2009, 16:23 Local Registration: N1591A

Aircraft: Piper PA-20 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

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

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot reported that the flight was normal and he set up for landing, with no unusual drift noted on final approach and with a normal touchdown. The pilot stated that the next thing he recalled was the left wing dropped and the airplane was skidding to the right across the runway and impacting a runway light. The pilot reported no mechanical problems with the airplane or the control system.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate compensation for the crosswind conditions and failure to maintain directional control on the landing roll out.

Findings

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Environmental issues Crosswind - Response/compensation

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)	
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	66,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	September 30, 2008
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	November 1, 2007
Flight Time:	2880 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1973 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N1591A
Model/Series:	PA-20	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	20-827
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 6, 2009 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	17 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3338 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-290-D
Registered Owner:	Frank Klein	Rated Power:	125 Horsepower
Operator:	Frank Klein	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Dawn
Observation Facility, Elevation:	GEU,1071 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	15:48 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 2000 ft AGL	Visibility	20 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 25000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots / 15 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	60°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.78 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	35°C / 8°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	St Johns, AZ (SJN)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Glendale, AZ (GEU)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	14:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Glendale Municipal Airport GEU	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1071 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	01	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	7150 ft / 100 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:	33.526668,-112.294998(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Cornejo, Tealeye
Additional Participating Persons:	Jacob Hansen; Federal Aviation Administration; Scottsdale, AZ
Original Publish Date:	October 19, 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=73888

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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