

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Hemet, California Accident Number: WPR09CA365

Date & Time: July 25, 2009, 08:00 Local Registration: N918ZZ

Aircraft: AMERICAN LEGEND AIRCRAFT CO
Ala Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Instructional

Analysis

The certificated flight instructor (CFI) was providing primary flight instruction to a student pilot in a tail wheel-equipped airplane. The CFI reported that he demonstrated the first landing, and the following landings were conducted by the student pilot. On the third landing, the airplane touched down on the main tires "straight, with no bounce." During the landing roll, while the tail wheel was still off the ground, the airplane veered slightly to the left and the student pilot applied left rudder. Subsequently, the airplane veered sharply to the left and the student pilot applied full brakes. The airplane exited the runway and nosed over. The airplane's wings and rudder sustained substantial damage. The pilots reported no mechanical failures or malfunctions prior to the accident.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The student pilot's failure to maintain directional control during the landing roll and excessive use of the brakes.

Findings

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Student/instructed pilot

Aircraft Brake - Incorrect use/operation

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Nose over/nose down

Flight instructor Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Flight instructor	Age:	56,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Rear
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane; Sport pilot	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 16, 2008
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 5, 2009
Flight Time:	18724 hours (Total, all aircraft), 14 hours (Total, this make and model), 18520 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 50 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 37 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Student pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	66,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Sport pilot With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	67 hours (Total, all aircraft), 13 hours (Total, this make and model), 1 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 23 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	AMERICAN LEGEND AIRCRAFT CO	Registration:	N918ZZ
Model/Series:	AL3	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental light sport (Special)	Serial Number:	AL-1058
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	November 24, 2008 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1320 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	29 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	119 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-200
Registered Owner:	DENNEY R. MARSH	Rated Power:	100 Horsepower
Operator:	DENNEY R. MARSH	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	RIV,1535 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	15 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	07:55 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	315°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.95 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	23°C / 17°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Hemet, CA (HMT)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Hemet, CA (HMT)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	Hemet-Ryan Airport HMT	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1512 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	23	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4314 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	33.733612,-117.020278(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hogenson, Dennis
Additional Participating Persons:	Jim Ferguson; Federal Aviation Administration; Riverside, CA
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=74361

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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