



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Sanford, Florida Accident Number: ERA09LA458

Date & Time: August 11, 2009, 08:19 Local Registration: N9261S

Aircraft: Beech BE-23 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

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

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

According to several witnesses, the pilot was performing touch-and-go landings on the 6,647-foot by 75-foot runway. The airplane had landed, and was beginning another takeoff roll when the accident occurred. A student pilot was seated in the left seat. The private pilot, seated in the right seat, reported that just after liftoff a gust of wind caused a loss of directional control. The airplane subsequently contacted the runway surface and veered off the right side of the runway surface. The private pilot reported that there were no known mechanical failures or malfunctions prior to the accident, and that he had approximately 80 total hours of flight experience. A weather observation taken at the airport immediately after the accident included a wind speed of zero 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 during takeoff.

Findings

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Total experience - Pilot

Personnel issues Total experience in position - Pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Loss of control in flight
Takeoff	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)

HISTORY OF FLIGHT

On August 11, 2009, about 0819 eastern daylight time, a Beechcraft BE-23, N9261S, was substantially damaged during an attempted takeoff at Orlando Sanford International Airport (SFB), Sanford, Florida. A student pilot was in the left seat, and a certificated private pilot was in the right seat; neither of them was injured. Both pilots declined to specify the purpose or nature of the flight. The flight was operated under the provisions of Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan was filed.

According to several witnesses, the airplane was performing touch and go operations on runway 9R. The airplane landed, and was beginning another takeoff when the accident occurred. Just after liftoff, the airplane re-contacted the runway, and then veered off the right side the runway. The SFB air traffic control tower (ATCT) was operating at the time of the accident, but the personnel in the ATCT did not witness the accident.

Several days after the accident, the private pilot provided written evidence that indicated that he was flying the airplane when the accident occurred. He reported that he lost control of the airplane due to a gust of wind. In addition, he reported that there were no known mechanical failures or malfunctions prior to the accident.

PERSONNEL INFORMATION

Left Seat Occupant

According to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) information, the individual in the left seat held a student pilot certificate, and he had approximately 40 total hours of flight experience. His most recent FAA third-class medical and student pilot certificate was issued in June 2009. The student pilot reported that his father was an owner of the corporation that was listed as the registered owner of the airplane.

Right Seat Occupant

The individual in the right seat held a private pilot certificate with an airplane single-engine land rating, and he had approximately 80 total hours of flight experience. He did not indicate that he had any previous flight time in the right seat. According to FAA-provided information, his most

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recent FAA second-class medical certificate was issued in July 2008, and his pilot certificate was issued in January 2009.

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

According to information provided by the FAA, the airplane was manufactured in 1976. It was an all-metal, low-wing design with tricycle-configuration landing gear, and was equipped with a Lycoming 0-360 series engine. Examination of the maintenance records revealed that the most recent annual inspection was completed in September 2008. At that time, the airplane had a total time in service of 2,611 hours, and the engine had accumulated 1,430 hours since major overhaul. In 2007, the airplane was registered to the current owner, a corporation entitled "Sky Airlines" that was located in New Castle, Delaware.

METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION

The 0832 special weather observation at SFB included calm winds, 10 miles visibility, clear skies, temperature 27 degrees C, dew point 24 degrees C, and an altimeter setting of 30.10 inches of mercury.

AIRPORT INFORMATION

Information from the FAA and commercial sources indicated that runway 9R at SFB measured 6,647 feet long by 75 feet wide, and that the runway surface material was asphalt "in good condition." The runway was reported to be dry at the time of the accident.

WRECKAGE AND IMPACT INFORMATION

According to information provided by the FAA inspector who responded to the accident scene, tire marks and ground scars indicated that the airplane initially veered slightly beyond the left edge of the runway, then crossed the runway, and continued into the grass beyond the right edge of the runway. The ground scars indicated that the airplane crossed, but did not descend into, a wide drainage ditch off the right side of the runway, and that the nose landing gear collapsed when it struck the far side of the ditch. The airplane traveled several hundred feet beyond the point where it initially departed the right edge of the runway, and came to rest south of the taxiway that paralleled the runway.

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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	22,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	July 10, 2008
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	January 19, 2009
Flight Time:	79 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3 hours (Total, this make and model), 35 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 14 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Student pilot Information

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Certificate:	Student	Age:	42,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 2, 2009
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	40 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Beech	Registration:	N9261S
Model/Series:	BE-23	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	M-1754
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	September 17, 2008 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	99 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2611 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-360-A4K
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SFB,52 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	08:32 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
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:	30.1 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	27°C / 24°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Sanford, FL (SFB)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Sanford, FL (SFB)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	08:20 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	Orlando Sanford International SFB	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	52 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	09R	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	6647 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Touch and go;Traffic pattern

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:	28.766666,-81.224998(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Huhn, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	Peter Kandravi; FAA/FSDO; Orlando, FL
Original Publish Date:	December 20, 2010
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=74504

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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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