



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: West Jordon, Utah Accident Number: WPR10CA088

Date & Time: December 19, 2009, 12:30 Local Registration: N17HY

Aircraft: Aviat A1-A Aircraft Damage: Substantial

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

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

#### **Analysis**

The pilot reported that while on final approach a crosswind gust pushed the nose of the airplane to the left. The pilot corrected back to the runway centerline and after landing "...a wind gust turned the tail and accelerated a right turn or a ground loop. The left wing touched the ground and the left gear collapsed." The undercarriage of the airplane where the left main gear attaches to the fuselage sustained substantial damage.

#### **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 of the airplane during the landing roll in gusting wind conditions.

#### **Findings**

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Environmental issues Gusts - Effect on operation

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

# **Factual Information**

## History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)	
Landing-landing roll	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)	
Landing-landing roll	Landing gear collapse	

## **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Private	Age:	45,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
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:	August 14, 2009
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	August 21, 2008
Flight Time:	305 hours (Total, all aircraft), 105 hours (Total, this make and model), 305 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 30 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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## **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	Aviat	Registration:	N17HY
Model/Series:	A1-A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	1454
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	December 7, 2009 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1890 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	2 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	506 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-360
Registered Owner:	John B. McDonald	Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:	John B. McDonald	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SLC,4227 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	13:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	240°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Few / 1800 ft AGL	Visibility	2 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots / 10 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	240°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.36 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-6°C / -4°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	Light - Partial - Mist		
Departure Point:	West Jordon, UT (U42)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Salt Lake City, UT (SLC)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	11:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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## **Airport Information**

Airport:	South Valley Airport U42	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	4607 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
Runway Used:	16	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5860 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	40.619445,-111.992774

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Little, Thomas
Additional Participating Persons:	Mark M Rushton; Federal Aviation Administration; Salt Lake City, UT
Original Publish Date:	March 23, 2010
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=75184

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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