



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Maybee, Michigan Accident Number: CEN10CA187

Date & Time: April 3, 2010, 13:15 Local Registration: N125AB

Aircraft: Maule MXT-7-180 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control in flight **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot was attempting to land on his private airstrip with high, gusting winds. A local weather station reported that the prevailing wind was out of the south-southwest at 27 knots, gusting to 38 knots. The pilot reported that he aligned with the runway 27 centerline and held a crab into the wind until the landing flare and touchdown. Upon touchdown, the airplane encountered a wind gust and the right wing impacted the ground. The airplane then nosed over and came to rest upside down on the grass runway. The right wing, engine firewall, and rudder were substantially damaged. The pilot reported that there were no preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures that would have precluded normal operation of the airplane.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to compensate for gusting crosswinds resulting in the loss of directional control while landing.

Findings

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Environmental issues High wind - Effect on operation

Environmental issuesGusts - Ability to respond/compensate

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Other weather encounter	
Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)	
Landing-flare/touchdown	Dragged wing/rotor/float/other	
Landing-flare/touchdown	Nose over/nose down	

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	59,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	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:	July 15, 2008
Flight Time:	735 hours (Total, all aircraft), 662 hours (Total, this make and model), 735 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Page 2 of 5 CEN10CA187

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Maule	Registration:	N125AB
Model/Series:	MXT-7-180	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	14102C
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	5
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 21, 2009 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	822 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-360-C1F
Registered Owner:	Short Field Deliveries, LLC	Rated Power:	200 Horsepower
Operator:	Short Field Deliveries, LLC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KTTF,616 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	20 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	13:16 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	110°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 10000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	27 knots / 38 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	200°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.64 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24°C / 6°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Hillsdale, MI (PVT)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Maybee, MI (PVT)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	12:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Page 3 of 5 CEN10CA187

Airport Information

Airport:	Private Airstrip PVT	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	610 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	27	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	1475 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;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:	42.003887,-83.515556(est)

Page 4 of 5 CEN10CA187

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Fox, Andrew
Additional Participating Persons:	Matthew R Day; Federal Aviation Administration - Detroit FSDO; Belleville, MI
Original Publish Date:	August 12, 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=75641

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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.

Page 5 of 5 CEN10CA187