



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

**Location**: Porter, Texas **Accident Number**: CEN10LA502

Date & Time: August 23, 2010, 22:30 Local Registration: N8154M

Aircraft: CIRRUS DESIGN CORP SR20 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** Collision during takeoff/land **Injuries:** 1 Serious

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

### **Analysis**

The airplane bounced on landing and the pilot had trouble getting the airplane to settle back to the runway. Concerned that he was not going to be able to stop on the remaining runway, the pilot elected to perform a go-around. The pilot applied full engine power and retracted the flaps; however, the airplane settled into trees 2,200 feet beyond the departure end of the runway. The airplane subsequently impacted the ground and came to rest in a nose-down, near-vertical position. The pilot reported that the wind was light and variable at the time, and that there were no mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane prior to the accident.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's delay in performing a go-around, which resulted in an impact with trees.

### **Findings**

Personnel issues Delayed action - Pilot

#### **Factual Information**

#### **History of Flight**

| Landing-aborted after touchdown | Collision during takeoff/land (Defining event) |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Uncontrolled descent            | Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)             |

On August 23, 2010, about 2230 central daylight time, a Cirrus Design Corp SR20, N8154M, was substantially damaged during impact with terrain during an attempted go-around maneuver at the North Houston Business Airport, (K9X1) Porter, Texas. The private pilot, the sole occupant, sustained serious injuries. The airplane was registered to and operated by a private individual. Night visual meteorological conditions prevailed and no flight plan was filed for the 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91 personal flight. The flight originated from the West Houston Airport (KIWS), Houston, Texas, around 2200.

The pilot reported that the airplane bounced on landing and that he had trouble getting the airplane to settle back to the runway. Concerned that he was not going to be able to stop on the remaining runway, the pilot elected to perform a go-around maneuver. The pilot applied full engine power and retracted the flaps; however, the airplane settled into trees 2,200 feet beyond the departure end of the runway. As the airplane began to impact trees, the pilot deployed the airplane's ballistic parachute. The airplane subsequently impacted the ground and came to rest in a nose down, near vertical position. Both wings and the fuselage were structurally damaged during the accident. The pilot further reported that the winds were light and variable at the time, and that there were no mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane prior to the accident.

#### **Pilot Information**

| Certificate:              | Private  | Age:                              | 37,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:            | January 21, 2010  |
| Occupational Pilot:       | No   | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: | September 4, 2008 |
| Flight Time:              | 329 hours (Total, all aircraft), 113 hours (Total, this make and model), 305 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 30 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) |                                   |                   |

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# Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

| CIRRUS DESIGN CORP           | Registration:  | N8154M   |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| SR20                         | Aircraft Category:   | Airplane   |
|                              | Amateur Built:   |  |
| Normal                       | Serial Number:   | 1371   |
| Tricycle                     | Seats:   | 4  |
| August 19, 2010 Annual       | Certified Max Gross Wt.:   | 3050 lbs   |
|                              | Engines:   | 1 Reciprocating  |
| 1130 Hrs at time of accident | Engine Manufacturer:   | CONT MOTOR   |
| Installed, not activated     | Engine Model/Series:   | IO-360 SER   |
| VICTOR BRAVO LLC             | Rated Power:   | 300 Horsepower   |
| VICTOR BRAVO LLC             | Operating Certificate(s)<br>Held:  | None   |
|                              | SR20  Normal  Tricycle  August 19, 2010 Annual  1130 Hrs at time of accident Installed, not activated VICTOR BRAVO LLC | SR20 Aircraft Category: Amateur Built:  Normal Serial Number:  Tricycle Seats: August 19, 2010 Annual Certified Max Gross Wt.:  Engines:  1130 Hrs at time of accident Installed, not activated VICTOR BRAVO LLC VICTOR BRAVO LLC Operating Certificate(s) |

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

| Conditions at Accident Site:     | Visual (VMC)                | Condition of Light:                  | Night             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | IAH,97 ft msl               | Distance from Accident Site:         | 10 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time:                | 22:00 Local                 | Direction from Accident Site:        | 186°              |
| <b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>   | Few                         | Visibility                           | 10 miles          |
| Lowest Ceiling:                  | None                        | Visibility (RVR):                    |                   |
| Wind Speed/Gusts:                | /                           | Turbulence Type<br>Forecast/Actual:  | /                 |
| Wind Direction:                  |                             | Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: | /                 |
| Altimeter Setting:               |                             | Temperature/Dew Point:               | 28°C / 22°C       |
| Precipitation and Obscuration:   | No Obscuration; No Precipit | ation                                |                   |
| Departure Point:                 | Houston, TX (IWS)           | Type of Flight Plan Filed:           | None              |
| Destination:                     | Porter, TX (9X1)            | Type of Clearance:                   | None              |
| Departure Time:                  | 22:00 Local                 | Type of Airspace:                    |                   |
|                                  |                             |                                      |                   |

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## **Airport Information**

| Airport:             | North Houston Business 9X1 | Runway Surface Type:             | Asphalt   |
|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Airport Elevation:   | 122 ft msl                 | <b>Runway Surface Condition:</b> | Dry       |
| Runway Used:         | 35                         | IFR Approach:                    | None      |
| Runway Length/Width: | 3594 ft / 46 ft            | VFR Approach/Landing:            | Go around |

## Wreckage and Impact Information

| Crew Injuries:         | 1 Serious | Aircraft Damage:        | Substantial         |
|------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Passenger<br>Injuries: |           | Aircraft Fire:          | None                |
| Ground Injuries:       | N/A       | Aircraft Explosion:     | None                |
| Total Injuries:        | 1 Serious | Latitude,<br>Longitude: | 30.16361,-95.324722 |

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#### **Administrative Information**

| Investigator In Charge (IIC):        | LeBaron, Timothy   |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Additional Participating<br>Persons: | Doug Idema; Federal Aviation Administration; Houston, TX |
| Original Publish Date:               | October 3, 2011  |
| Last Revision Date:                  |  |
| Investigation Class:                 | <u>Class</u>   |
| Note:                                |  |
| Investigation Docket:                | https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=77097             |

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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