



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Fairbanks, Alaska Accident Number: ANC10CA086

Date & Time: September 10, 2010, 17:00 Local Registration: N598AL

Aircraft: ROBERTS ALAN W KITFOX II Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Hard landing **Injuries:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The private pilot was on a personal local flight, operating under Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations Part 91. The pilot reported that during landing, the airplane landed hard, and bounced back into the air. He said he added power to go around, but the airplane drifted left of the runway, and the right wing struck a signpost. He said the airplane spun around the post, and impacted the ground. The pilot said there were no preimpact mechanical problems with the airplane, and that the airplane sustained substantial damage to its right wing.

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 proper aircraft control during landing and the subsequent goaround, resulting in a hard landing, and a collision with a signpost.

Findings

Aircraft Descent rate - Not attained/maintained

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

 Landing-flare/touchdown
 Hard landing (Defining event)

 Takeoff
 Loss of control in flight

 Takeoff
 Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	22,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
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 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 15, 2007
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	September 12, 2009
Flight Time:	74 hours (Total, all aircraft), 6 hours (Total, this make and model), 16 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Page 2 of 5 ANC10CA086

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	ROBERTS ALAN W	Registration:	N598AL
Model/Series:	KITFOX II	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	598
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 8, 2010 Condition	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	950 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	340 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	BOMBARDIER
ELT:	C91A installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	ROTAX (ALL)
Registered Owner:	Lyle Whitmer	Rated Power:	65 Horsepower
Operator:	Charles Whitmer	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	FAI,439 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 8000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	6 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	140°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.95 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	18°C / 7°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Fairbanks, AK (MTF)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Fairbanks, AK (MTF)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	

Page 3 of 5 ANC10CA086

Airport Information

Airport:	Metro Field MTF	Runway Surface Type:	Gravel
Airport Elevation:	432 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	06	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4600 ft / 30 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Go around

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	64.453613,-147.563613

Page 4 of 5 ANC10CA086

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Lewis, Lawrence
Additional Participating Persons:	Brice Banning; FAA FSDO-01; Fairbanks, AK
Original Publish Date:	December 20, 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=77265

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.

Page 5 of 5 ANC10CA086