

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Danville, Illinois	Accident Number:	CEN11LA178
Date & Time:	February 7, 2011, 10:30 Local	Registration:	N6XZ
Aircraft:	Beech A36	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	3 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation		

Analysis

The pilot reported that while he was in the downwind leg of the traffic pattern he checked for runway contamination and the runway was clear and dry. He stated that his landing approach and touchdown on the runway centerline were uneventful. Approximately 500 feet into the landing roll, he applied right brake pressure, and the airplane immediately entered a right swerve. He stated that he was unable to regain directional control with the full application of left rudder and brake inputs. The airplane continued in the right swerve, departing off the right side of the runway. The left main landing gear collapsed during the runway excursion, damaging the left wing closeout rib and aft spar. The pilot's statement that airplane continued to track the runway centerline for 500 feet after touchdown, before his first application of brake pressure, suggests that the disk-brake components and rotor were clear of any contamination such as ice and/or snow during the landing roll. Further, if there had been any contamination of the airplane's right wheel and disk-brake components did not reveal any preimpact anomalies or failures that would have prevented normal operation.

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 the landing roll.

Findings	
Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight	
Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion
Landing-landing roll	Landing gear collapse

On February 7, 2011, at 1030 central standard time, a Beech model A36 airplane, N6XZ, was substantially damaged while landing at Vermilion Regional Airport (KDNV), near Danville, Illinois. The pilot and two passengers were not injured. The airplane was registered to and operated by the Kahler Automation Corporation, under the provisions of 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91. Day visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the flight, which was operated on an instrument flight plan. The flight departed Fairmont Municipal Airport (KFRM), Fairmont, Minnesota, at approximately 0800 for the cross-country flight.

The pilot reported that during the downwind leg for runway 34 he did not notice any ice or snow contamination on the runway. He stated that his landing approach and touchdown on the runway centerline were uneventful. Approximately 500 feet into the landing rollout, he applied right brake pressure and the airplane immediately entered a right swerve. He stated that he was unable to regain directional control with the full application of left rudder and brake inputs. The airplane continued in the right swerve, departing off the right side of the runway. The left main landing gear collapsed during the runway excursion damaging the left wing closeout rib and aft spar. A postaccident examination of the airplane's right wheel and disk-brake components did not reveal any preimpact anomalies or failures that would have prevented normal operation.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	60,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:	February 16, 2010
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	November 19, 2010
Flight Time:	1050 hours (Total, all aircraft), 44 hours (Total, this make and model), 765 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 27 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Beech	Registration:	N6XZ
Model/Series:	A36	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Utility	Serial Number:	E-2047
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 13, 2010 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3600 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2055 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Teledyne Continental Motors
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-550-BSF
Registered Owner:	Kahler Automation Corporation	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:	Kahler Automation Corporation	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Vieual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Dav
Conditions at Accident Site.	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KDNV,697 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	10:25 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	330°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.95 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-2°C / -5°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:	Fairmont, MN (KFRM)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	Danville, IL (KDNV)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	08:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	Vermilion Regional Airport KDNV	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	697 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	34	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3999 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	3 None	Latitude, Longitude:	40.199722,-87.595558(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Fox, Andrew	
Additional Participating Persons:	Brian L Lands; Federal Aviation Administration - Springfield FSDO; Springfield, IL	
Original Publish Date:	December 19, 2011	
Last Revision Date:		
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>	
Note:		
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=78307	

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 <u>here</u>.