

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Soda Springs, Idaho Accident Number: WPR11CA323

Date & Time: July 7, 2011, 13:00 Local Registration: N545N

Aircraft: TL ULTRALIGHT SRO STINGSPORT Aircraft Damage: Substantial

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

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Instructional

Analysis

During a cross country flight, the student pilot diverted to an unfamiliar airport due to deteriorating weather conditions. The pilot elected to touch down long because of the presence of a road near the approach end of the runway. The pilot reported that he flared too aggressively and the airplane bounced, and yawed to the right. The pilot applied left rudder to try and correct the airplane's yaw, and the nose gear collapsed when the airplane touched down the second time. Subsequently, the airplane slid off the runway to the right, and the elevator was substantially damaged. The pilot reported that there were no preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airframe and engine that would have precluded normal flight.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's improper landing flare and failure to maintain directional control during the landing.

Findings

Personnel issues Incorrect action performance - Student/instructed pilot

Aircraft Landing flare - Incorrect use/operation

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Student/instructed pilot

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown Hard landing (Defining event)

Landing-landing rollLanding gear collapseLanding-landing rollRunway excursion

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	58,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	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:	None None	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	54 hours (Total, all aircraft), 11 hours (Total, this make and model), 15 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	TL ULTRALIGHT SRO	Registration:	N545N
Model/Series:	STINGSPORT	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Special light-sport (Special)	Serial Number:	TLUSA123
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	July 6, 2011 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1320 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	8 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	365 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	BOMBARDIER
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	ROTAX (ALL)
Registered Owner:	AIRHAVEN INC	Rated Power:	100
Operator:	AIRHAVEN INC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KPIH,4452 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	43 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	12:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	290°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 8000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	15 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	306°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.03 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	30°C / 13°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Gooding, ID (KGNG)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Rocksprings, WY (KRKS)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	10:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	Allen H Tigert Airport U78	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	5839 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	16	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3500 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Straight-in

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:	42.592224,-111.575553(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Rich, Jefferey
Additional Participating Persons:	Lewis Olson; Federal Aviation Administration; Salt Lake City, UT
Original Publish Date:	October 6, 2011
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=81086

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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