



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Terrell, Texas	Accident Number:	CEN12CA026
Date & Time:	October 16, 2011, 07:30 Local	Registration:	N331EJ
Aircraft:	JANTZEN EVANS VP	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Aerodynamic stall/spin	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that, after a preflight inspection and normal run up, he taxied to the runway for takeoff. The airplane lifted off the runway about midfield but was not climbing as expected, although the engine was operating normally. As the airplane climbed through about 100 feet above ground level, the pilot thought that the airplane was losing lift or stalling, so he lowered the nose and simultaneously banked right to avoid the tops of a stand of trees near the departure end of the runway. During the turn, the airplane stalled and impacted the ground. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage and wings. The pilot reported that the airplane was near its maximum gross takeoff weight at the time of the accident, which could have explained the less-than-expected climb performance. He also stated that if he had not had to maneuver away from trees just beyond the departure end of the runway, he may have effected a landing without incident.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate preflight planning, in that he did not determine whether the airplane's climb performance would be sufficient to clear obstacles before initiating take off.

Findings

Aircraft	Maximum weight - Capability exceeded
Personnel issues	Performance calculations - Pilot
Personnel issues	Total experience w/ equipment - Pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

Initial climb	Aerodynamic stall/spin (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	71, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Single
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Sport pilot Unknown	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	September 14, 2010
Flight Time:	385 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1 hours (Total, this make and model), 1 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	JANTZEN	Registration:	N331EJ
Model/Series:	EVANS VP	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	P15
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	April 22, 2011 Continuous airworthiness	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	50 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	VOLKSWAGEN
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	CONVERSION
Registered Owner:	KING GRADY W	Rated Power:	36 Horsepower
Operator:	KING GRADY W	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	1F7,510 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	07:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	15 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.92 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	27°C / 16°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Rockwall, TX (1F7)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Rockwall, TX (1F7)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	08:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class D

Airport Information

Airport:	Rockwall 1F7	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:		IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	32.808612,-96.351943(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Lemishko, Alexander
Additional Participating Persons:	Freddie Corley; FAA FSDO; Dallas, TX
Original Publish Date:	March 8, 2012
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=82100

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