



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Indianapolis, Indiana	Accident Number:	CEN12CA038
Date & Time:	October 16, 2011, 14:45 Local	Registration:	N9013H
Aircraft:	Pipistrel SINUS 912	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that the motor-glider encountered a wind gust during the landing flare that resulted in a 15-degree runway misalignment. The pilot considered a go-around, but chose to attempt a landing in the grass adjacent to the runway because he believed that was the safest course of action. He stated that another wind gust "caught" the right wing and the motor-glider ground looped in the grass, nosed over, and sustained substantial damage to the fuselage. The pilot reported that the wind at the time of the accident was gusting to 25 knots. The pilot reported no mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane that would have precluded 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 of the motor-glider while landing in gusty wind conditions.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	Gusts - Response/compensation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control in flight
Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	59, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	None	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	December 8, 2010
Flight Time:	531 hours (Total, all aircraft), 344 hours (Total, this make and model), 438 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 18 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Pipistrel	Registration:	N9013H
Model/Series:	SINUS 912	Aircraft Category:	Glider
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	088S9120103
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	February 23, 2011 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	664 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	912S
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	85 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	IND,797 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	19 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	13:54 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	225°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 13000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 15000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	15 knots / 25 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	250°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.76 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	22°C / 8°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Louisville, KY (LOU)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Unknown
Destination:	Indianapolis, IN (MQJ)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	14:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Indianapolis Regional MQJ	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:	922 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	25	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

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:	40.030555,-86.251388

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Brannen, John
Additional Participating Persons:	James D Martin; FAA - Indianapolis FSDO; Indianapolis, IN
Original Publish Date:	December 27, 2011
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.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=82124

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