



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Chefornak, Alaska	Accident Number:	ANC12CA036
Date & Time:	May 3, 2012, 10:40 Local	Registration:	N1906
Aircraft:	SHORT BROS. & HARLAND SC7 SERIES 3	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Abnormal runway contact	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air taxi & commuter - Non-scheduled		

Analysis

The pilot was landing on a narrow gravel runway adjacent to a gravel road. He reported that both the road and runway were covered with snow and that flat light conditions made it difficult to discern between the two surfaces. He inadvertently landed to the left of the runway on the rough road, which resulted in structural damage to the nose landing gear bulkhead.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's misidentification of a nearby snow-covered road as the snow-covered runway in flat light conditions.

Findings

Personnel issues	Identification/recognition - Pilot
Environmental issues	Flat light - Effect on personnel
Environmental issues	Snow/slush/ice covered surface - Effect on personnel

Factual Information

History of Flight

Approach	Loss of visual reference
Landing-flare/touchdown	Abnormal runway contact (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial	Age:	49, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	July 25, 2011
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	October 20, 2011
Flight Time:	19544 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4682 hours (Total, this make and model), 18942 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 194 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 91 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	SHORT BROS. & HARLAND	Registration:	N1906
Model/Series:	SC7 SERIES 3	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	SH1906
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	20
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	April 2, 2012 AAIP	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	12500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Turbo prop
Airframe Total Time:	9970 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Honeywell
ELT:	C91A installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	TPE331-2-201A
Registered Owner:	RYAN AIR INC	Rated Power:	750 Horsepower
Operator:	RYAN AIR INC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand air taxi (135)

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PACK,40 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	09:54 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	600 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 3000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	270°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.84 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-1°C / -2°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Bethel, AK (PABE)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Company VFR
Destination:	Chefornak, AK (PACK)	Type of Clearance:	Special VFR
Departure Time:	10:02 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Chefornak PACK	Runway Surface Type:	Gravel;Snow
Airport Elevation:	40 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Snow
Runway Used:	34	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2500 ft / 28 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	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:	60.142776,-164.284729

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Lewis, Lawrence
Additional Participating Persons:	FAA FSDO-03; Anchorage, AK
Original Publish Date:	October 9, 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.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=83557

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