



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Sterling, Illinois Accident Number: CEN12CA280

Date & Time: May 8, 2012, 10:00 Local Registration: N3557Q

Aircraft: Cessna A188 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 137: Agricultural

Analysis

While landing on runway 7, the pilot lost directional control after the tailwheel touched down. The pilot continued the landing and attempted to stop the airplane. The airplane then ground-looped and departed the runway surface. During the ground loop, the right main landing gear separated and the right wing bent upward. The reported wind at the airport at the time of the accident was from 300 degrees at 13 knots. The pilot reported no mechanical problems with the airplane prior to the accident. The airplane's owner stated that the pilot landed on the wrong runway based on the wind conditions.

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 landing. Contributing to the accident was the pilot's runway selection based on the wind conditions.

Findings

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Decision making/judgment - Pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	40,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Center
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	February 15, 2012
Flight Time:	517 hours (Total, all aircraft), 210 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Cessna	Registration:	N3557Q
A188	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
	Amateur Built:	
Restricted (Special)	Serial Number:	188-0507
	Seats:	1
Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	IO 520 SERIES
WOODLEY CRAIG S	Rated Power:	285 Horsepower
WOODLEY CRAIG S	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	
	A188 Restricted (Special) Unknown Not installed WOODLEY CRAIG S	A188 Aircraft Category: Amateur Built: Restricted (Special) Serial Number: Seats: Unknown Certified Max Gross Wt.: Engines: Engine Manufacturer: Not installed Engine Model/Series: WOODLEY CRAIG S Operating Certificate(s)

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SQI,648 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	10:15 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	13 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	300°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.92 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	18°C / 8°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ition	
Departure Point:	Walnut, IL	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Sterling, IL (SQI)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Whiteside County Airport SQI	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	07	IFR Approach:	Visual
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

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:	41.742778,-89.676109(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Sauer, Aaron
Additional Participating Persons:	Lee Stenson; Federal Aviation Administration; West Chicago, IL
Original Publish Date:	July 18, 2012
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=83579

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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