



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Norwich, New York	Accident Number:	ERA12CA350
Date & Time:	May 19, 2012, 13:50 Local	Registration:	N3956P
Aircraft:	Piper PA-22-150	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Sys/Comp malf/fail (non-power)	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

About 400 feet into the third landing roll, the airplane began pulling to the left. The pilot corrected to the right using the rudder, and the airplane ground looped, which resulted in substantial damage to the left wing. Postaccident examination revealed that the airplane's left tire was deflated. Fragments of the tire and skid marks were observed on the runway. The pilot reported that the windsock at the accident airport indicated light wind from the south around the time of the accident. The cause of the deflated tire could not be determined.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inability to maintain directional control during a landing with a deflated left main landing gear tire.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Aircraft	Directional control - Capability exceeded
Aircraft	Tire casing - Failure

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Sys/Comp malf/fail (non-power) (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground
Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	55, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 30, 2011
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	May 15, 2010
Flight Time:	725 hours (Total, all aircraft), 391 hours (Total, this make and model), 665 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Flight instructor Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	25, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 2, 2009
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	July 10, 2008
Flight Time:	1352 hours (Total, all aircraft), 0 hours (Total, this make and model), 1202 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N3956P
Model/Series:	PA-22-150	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	22-3634
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	April 20, 2012 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2598 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A1A
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	150 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:	BGM,1636 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	29 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	13:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	224°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.2 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24°C / 7°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Norwich, NY (OIC)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	Norwich, NY (OIC)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	13:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Lt Warren Eaton Airport OIC	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1025 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	19	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4724 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	42.573055,-75.523612(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Etcher, Shawn
Additional Participating Persons:	John Machemer; FAA/FSDO; Latham, NY
Original Publish Date:	October 15, 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=83715

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