



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Chula Vista, California Accident Number: WPR12CA346

Date & Time: August 6, 2012, 09:30 Local Registration: N9727F

Aircraft: Cessna 208 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Hard landing **Injuries:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Skydiving

Analysis

The pilot said that, while on short final, the airplane experienced a sudden sink rate when the wind changed from a head wind to calm conditions. He was unable to arrest the sink rate even after power was applied because of the lag time for the airplane's turbine engine to spool up. The airplane landed hard short of the runway. Postaccident examination of the airplane revealed that the left side of the fuselage was dented and wrinkled, and the left main landing gear was bent inboard of the axle and was missing its brake assembly.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to arrest the aircraft's sink rate on short final, which resulted in a hard landing.

Findings

Aircraft Descent rate - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport	Age:	50,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 4, 2011
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 16, 2011
Flight Time:	4650 hours (Total, all aircraft), 800 hours (Total, this make and model), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N9727F
Model/Series:	208	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	20800151
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	10
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 29, 2012 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	8000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Turbo prop
Airframe Total Time:	12990 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	PT6A SER
Registered Owner:	TACTICAL AIR OPERATIONS INC	Rated Power:	750 Horsepower
Operator:	TACTICAL AIR OPERATIONS INC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:	Skydive San Diego	Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	NRS,24 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	12 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	09:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	250°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	800 ft AGL	Visibility	7 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 20000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.98 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	22°C / 17°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Chula vista, CA (0CL3)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Chula vista, CA (0CL3)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	09:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	John Nichol's Field Airport 0CL3	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	490 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	27	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2400 ft / 50 ft	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:	32.633056,-116.893058(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Struhsaker, James
Additional Participating Persons:	Matthew J Nachreiner; FAA FSDO; San Diego, CA
Original Publish Date:	October 9, 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=84590

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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