



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location:	Paso Robles, California	Accident Number:	WPR13CA146
Date & Time:	March 11, 2013, 13:38 Local	Registration:	N29969
Aircraft:	Waco UPF-7	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

### Analysis

The pilot reported that, during the landing roll in light and variable wind, a "puff" of wind from the east caused the tail, which was on the runway, to swing around. The pilot added power in an attempt to regain directional control; however, he did not apply power soon enough. The right wing touched the runway, and the airplane impacted a taxiway intersection sign. The airplane's wing spars were structurally damaged, and the upper right wing tip was crushed. The pilot reported no preimpact 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 adequately compensate for crosswind conditions, which resulted in a loss of directional control during the landing roll.

Findings	
Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	Crosswind - Response/compensation
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot

## **Factual Information**

History of Flight	
Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion

### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	67,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Rear
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	January 14, 2013
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 11, 2011
Flight Time:	3986 hours (Total, all aircraft), 26 hours (Total, this make and model), 22 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

#### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Waco	Registration:	N29969
Model/Series:	UPF-7	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	5466
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	April 26, 2012 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2620 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4023 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	W670 SERIES
Registered Owner:	Stewart Edwards	Rated Power:	220 Horsepower
Operator:	Stewart Edwards	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

#### Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KPRB,839 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	13:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
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:	30.11 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	22°C / 1°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Paso Robles, CA (KPRB)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Paso Robles, CA (KPRB)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	13:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

#### **Airport Information**

Airport:	Paso Robles Municipal Airport KPRB	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	19	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Touch and go;Traffic pattern

### Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	35.672779,-120.626945(est)

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	McKenny, Van	
Additional Participating Persons:	Bill Dime; Federal Aviation Administration; San Jose, CA	
Original Publish Date:	June 24, 2013	
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=86401	

#### Administrative Information

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.