



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Pahokee, Florida	Accident Number:	ERA13CA426
Date & Time:	September 22, 2013, 12:30 Local	Registration:	N244FM
Aircraft:	MARCONI FRED I JR VELOCITY XL/RG	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Simulated/training event	Injuries:	2 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of the experimental amateur-built airplane was performing a simulated forced landing to the airport runway. As the airplane was in the landing flare, another pilot radioed that the accident airplane's landing gear was still retracted. About that time, the aft mounted propeller struck the runway and the pilot increased power in an attempt to abort the landing. The pilot subsequently lost control of the airplane and it impacted terrain to the side of the runway, resulting in serious injuries to the pilot and flight instructor, and substantial damage to the airframe. Examination of the wreckage following the accident revealed that the landing gear switch was selected to the "UP" position.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to ensure that the landing gear were extended during the simulated forced landing attempt. Contributing to the outcome was the pilot's decision to continue the aborted landing after the propeller had contacted the runway.

Findings

Personnel issues	Use of equip/system - Pilot
Personnel issues	Incorrect action selection - Pilot
Aircraft	Gear extension and retract sys - Incorrect use/operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Approach-VFR pattern downwind	Simulated/training event (Defining event)
Landing	Landing gear not configured
Landing	Abnormal runway contact
Landing	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	68
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
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:	November 15, 2012
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	December 18, 2011
Flight Time:	987.2 hours (Total, all aircraft), 770.9 hours (Total, this make and model), 987.2 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 12.5 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 6.8 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Flight instructor Information

Certificate:	Flight instructor	Age:	78
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 24, 2012
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	May 20, 2012
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 4465 hours (Total, all aircraft), 550 hours (Total, this make and model), 4200 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	MARCONI FRED I JR	Registration:	N244FM
Model/Series:	VELOCITY XL/RG 3RX072	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1999	Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	3RX072
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	July 20, 2013 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	770 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	C91A installed, activated, aided in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	IO 540
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	250 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:	PBI,20 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	32 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	12:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	100°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 2800 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	170°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.81 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	30°C / 24°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Hollywood, FL (HWO)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Hollywood, FL (HWO)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	11:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	Palm Beach County Glades Arpt PHK	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	16 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	17	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4116 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	26.784999,-80.693336(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Neylon, John
Additional Participating Persons:	Guillaume Baudet; FSDO/FAA; Miramar, FL
Original Publish Date:	February 4, 2014
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=88105

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