



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Benton, Tennessee	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ERA14CA215
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	April 27, 2014, 14:40 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N1002Z
<b>Aircraft:</b>	SCHLEICHER ALEXANDER K 7	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Minor
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Hard landing	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Serious
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

In a statement to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the pilot of the glider stated that he was on final approach for landing with the air brakes deployed when he observed another glider on the runway. He raised the nose of his glider to clear the other glider, but did not retract the air brakes, which resulted in a hard landing. The pilot sustained serious injuries. Postaccident examination by an FAA inspector revealed minor damage to the glider's tail skid, and no mechanical malfunctions or anomalies 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 distraction with traffic on the runway, and his subsequent failure to retract the air brakes prior to touchdown, which resulted in a hard landing.

## Findings

<b>Personnel issues</b>	Forgotten action/omission - Pilot
<b>Aircraft</b>	Configuration - Incorrect use/operation
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Attention - Pilot

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Landing-flare/touchdown</b>	Hard landing (Defining event)
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### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	63
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Front
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Glider	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	4-point
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	None	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>			

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	SCHLEICHER ALEXANDER	<b>Registration:</b>	N1002Z
<b>Model/Series:</b>	K 7	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Glider
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1961	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	984
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Other launch/recovery system	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	October 1, 2013 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1068 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	0
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	3212 Hrs at time of accident	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	FLEMING RACHEL D	<b>Rated Power:</b>	
<b>Operator:</b>	Chilhowee Soaring Association, Inc	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KCHA,688 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	32 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	14:53 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	249°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Scattered / 5000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Broken / 25000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	10 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/ None
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	170°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/ N/A
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29.9 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	29°C / 13°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Benton, TN (92A )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Benton, TN (92A )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>		<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Chilhowee Gliderport 92A	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Grass/turf
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	770 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	21	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	2600 ft / 200 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Serious	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Minor
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Serious	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	35.222499,-84.584442(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Diaz, Allison
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Thomas Luipersbeck; FAA/FSDO; Nashville, TN
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	October 9, 2014
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=89146">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=89146</a>

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