

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Akron, Ohio Accident Number: CEN15CA188

Date & Time: February 12, 2015, 16:45 Local Registration: N427AB

Aircraft: Piper PA 46-350P Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation

Analysis

The airplane veered off the left side of the runway during landing with a left gusting crosswind. The maximum demonstrated crosswind velocity for the airplane was 17 knots. The pilot stated that he had applied right rudder and left aileron control inputs for the landing. The airplane left main landing gear touched down first and when the right main landing gear contacted the runway, a gust of wind lifted the left wing, resulting in a loss of directional control. The airplane veered off the left side of the runway and into a grass area adjacent to the runway where the nose landing gear collapsed. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the engine firewall. The pilot and passenger were uninjured. The pilot stated that there was no mechanical malfunction/failure of the airplane.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain directional control during a crosswind landing in gusting crosswind conditions.

Findings

Personnel issues Incorrect action performance - Pilot

Environmental issues Crosswind - Contributed to outcome

Environmental issues Gusts - Contributed to outcome

Aircraft Crosswind correction - Attain/maintain not possible

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing Other weather encounter

Landing-flare/touchdown Loss of control on ground (Defining event)

Landing-landing roll Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Landing roll Landing gear collapse

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Private	Age:	47
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 13, 2013
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	March 13, 2014
Flight Time:	700 hours (Total, all aircraft), 243 hours (Total, this make and model), 575 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 50 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 30 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N427AB
Model/Series:	PA 46-350P	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2002	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	4636324
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable -	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	January 8, 2015 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	4350 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1848 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	TIO-540-AE2A
Registered Owner:	SSP Aviation LLC	Rated Power:	350 Horsepower
Operator:	Pilot	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	AKR	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:46 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 2900 ft AGL	Visibility	9 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 3500 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	17 knots / 22 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	340°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.15 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-11°C / -18°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:	INDIANAPOLIS, IN (EYE)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR/IFR
Destination:	Akron, OH (AKR)	Type of Clearance:	VFR flight following
Departure Time:	14:10 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class D

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Airport Information

Airport:	AKRON FULTON INTL AKR	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1067 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Ice
Runway Used:	07	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	6336 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	41.037498,-81.466667(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Gallo, Mitchell
Additional Participating Persons:	Steven Steele; Federal Aviation Adminstration; CLE FSDO; Cleveland, OH
Original Publish Date:	May 13, 2015
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=90976

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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