



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: MIDLOTHIAN, Texas Accident Number: GAA15CA242

Date & Time: August 29, 2015, 13:20 Local Registration: N5255G

Aircraft: Cessna 305A Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Glider tow

#### **Analysis**

The pilot reported that after a simulated rope break maneuver while towing a glider, he maneuvered to the runway and landed "normal". The pilot reported that during the landing roll the airplane "yawed" to the left; he applied right rudder inputs to correct the yaw, but it was ineffective. The pilot reported that he "quickly applied right brake", but "felt no brake pressure in the pedal". He "pressed the brake pedal 4-5 times as the aircraft continued to yaw", subsequently the airplane ground looped to the left.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the right wing and the fuselage.

The pilot reported that when he applied the right brake he "heard the pedal click against something behind it, creating a metallic sound."

A post-accident examination of the right brake system components revealed, that the brake disc was within limits, and brake pads were within limits. The aluminum hydraulic brake line tube which is lead along the aft edge of the gear leg from the brake caliper toward the master cylinder was broken about halfway down the gear leg, under the retaining bracket. The retaining bracket was canted and the brake line and rubber padding had been secured with a zip tie. There were no signs of impact damage at the break.

In a statement from the airplane's type certificate holder to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) investigator-in-charge (IIC) dated October 14, the holder reported that at the point where the zip tie had been installed, the brake line was supposed to be held in place by a green bracket, with the small section of rubber tube protecting the line from direct contact with the other metal parts. The green bracket should be positioned perpendicular to the aft contour line of the gear leg.

It is likely that the canted bracket and zip tie created a pinch point on the flexing gear leg and resulted in the failure of the brake line.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The failure of the brake line tubing for the right main landing gear brake, due to a non-standard method used to secure the brake line, which resulted in a loss of control during landing, and a ground loop.

#### **Findings**

Aircraft	Landing gear brakes system - Failure
Aircraft	Directional control - Attain/maintain not possible
Personnel issues	Modification/alteration - Maintenance personnel

Page 2 of 6 GAA15CA242

# **Factual Information**

# History of Flight

Prior to flight	Aircraft maintenance event
Landing-landing roll	Miscellaneous/other
Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	24
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	September 14, 2014
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	July 17, 2015
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 2300 hours (Total, all aircraft), 130 hours (Total, this make and model), 1415 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 157 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 63 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Page 3 of 6 GAA15CA242

### **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N5255G
Model/Series:	305A A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1951	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Utility	Serial Number:	22655
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2101 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-470
Registered Owner:	SETIAN PETER	Rated Power:	213 Horsepower
Operator:	SETIAN PETER	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

# Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KJWY,749 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	20:15 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	188°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	170°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.98 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	33°C / 18°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	MIDLOTHIAN, TX (JWY)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	MIDLOTHIAN, TX (JWY)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	13:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Page 4 of 6 GAA15CA242

# **Airport Information**

Airport:	MID-WAY RGNL JWY	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	727 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
Runway Used:	36	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	6500 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Straight-in

# 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:	32.458889,-96.912498(est)

Page 5 of 6 GAA15CA242

#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Vanover, Jackie
Additional Participating Persons:	Morris McAllister; FAA; Irving, TX
Original Publish Date:	November 5, 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=91890

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.

Page 6 of 6 GAA15CA242