



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Wellington, Ohio	Accident Number:	GAA15CA299
Date & Time:	September 17, 2015, 17:00 Local	Registration:	N3872G
Aircraft:	BURKHART GROB FLUGZEUGBAU G103 TWIN ASTIR	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Abnormal runway contact	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of a glider reported that he encountered a "heavy sink" on the downwind leg in the traffic pattern. He immediately made a left steep turn toward the runway, but the left wing impacted terrain during the turn to final. Subsequently, the tail section of fuselage impacted the runway, and the glider came to rest on the runway surface. The fuselage sustained substantial damage.

About the time of the accident at an airport 11 nautical miles north of the destination airport, the wind was reported at 210 degrees true at 8 knots, the sky condition was clear, temperature was 27 degrees Celsius (80 degrees Fahrenheit), and dew point was 13 degrees Celsius (55 degrees Fahrenheit).

The pilot reported there were no mechanical malfunctions or failures with the glider 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 level the wings during the landing flare, which resulted in the left wing striking the runway.

Findings

Personnel issues

Aircraft control - Pilot

Aircraft

Lateral/bank control - Not attained/maintained

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Abnormal runway contact (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	79, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	Unknown
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	None None	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	September 3, 2015
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 429 hours (Total, all aircraft), 167 hours (Total, this make and model), 8.6 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2.2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0.3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BURKHART GROB FLUGZEUGBAU	Registration:	N3872G
Model/Series:	G103 TWIN ASTIR TWIN II	Aircraft Category:	Glider
Year of Manufacture:	1983	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	3777
Landing Gear Type:	Ski/wheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1278 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	0
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	FUN COUNTRY SOARING INC	Rated Power:	
Operator:	FUN COUNTRY SOARING INC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Dusk
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KLPR,793 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	11 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	20:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	360°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.06 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	27°C / 13°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Wellington, OH (67D)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Wellington, OH (67D)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	READER-BOTSFORD 67D	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	864 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	36	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2850 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	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:	41.16611,-82.197219(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Gerhardt, Adam
Additional Participating Persons:	Thomas Sanzo; Cleveland FSDO (FAA); Cleveland, OH
Original Publish Date:	December 17, 2015
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=92182

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