



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Sedona, Arizona	Accident Number:	GAA16CA461
Date & Time:	August 30, 2016, 11:02 Local	Registration:	N114LC
Aircraft:	AMERICAN LEGEND AIRCRAFT CO AL3	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Abnormal runway contact	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

According to the pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane, during approach for landing the airplane encountered "slight" turbulence, but the wind was reported as calm. He further reported that there were building cumulus clouds in the area. The pilot reported that about 4 feet above the ground, the airplane encountered wind gusts from left to right, so he added power and right rudder. He reported that the airplane landed on the left main landing gear, immediately veered left, exited the left side of the runway and impacted a drainage culvert. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage frame and right wing ribs.

The pilot reported that there were no mechanical malfunctions or anomalies with any portion of the airplane during the flight that would have prevented normal flight operations.

As a recommendation the pilot reported that he should have gone around at the first indication of turbulence and tested the conditions further. He wrote that had the conditions worsened he would have departed the area for a suitable airport.

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 the landing in gusting wind conditions, which resulted in a runway excursion.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Gusts - Effect on equipment
Environmental issues	Gusts - Ability to respond/compensate
Environmental issues	(general) - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Turbulence encounter
Landing-flare/touchdown	Abnormal runway contact (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control on ground
Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion
Landing-landing roll	Landing gear collapse
Landing-landing roll	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	70, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 29, 2016
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	November 15, 2015
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 407.7 hours (Total, all aircraft), 51 hours (Total, this make and model), 382.7 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 6.4 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	AMERICAN LEGEND AIRCRAFT CO	Registration:	N114LC
Model/Series:	AL3 UNDESIGNAT	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2008	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Special light-sport (Special)	Serial Number:	AL-1140
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	December 12, 2015 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1320 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	362.8 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-200/A48
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	100 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:	KSEZ,4827 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	74 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	17:55 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	5°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	250°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.21 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	29°C / 8°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Prescott, AZ (PRC)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Sedona, AZ (SEZ)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	10:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	SEDONA SEZ	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	4830 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	03	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5132 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

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:	34.509166,-111.473052(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	Craig Tompkins; FAA; Scottsdale, AZ
Original Publish Date:	January 18, 2017
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=93936

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