



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Kingsland, Georgia Accident Number: ERA17CA157

Date & Time: April 15, 2017, 10:50 Local Registration: N340TP

Aircraft: AEROPRO CZ EUROFOX LSA Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Hard landing **Injuries:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The commercial pilot, who was also the owner of the experimental, light-sport airplane, stated that the airplane approached the grass strip with "all systems operating correctly" and that he performed a side slip to lose altitude and align the airplane with the field. The airplane descended "very quickly," and at touchdown, the nose landing gear dug in and collapsed, and the airplane then nosed over and came to rest inverted. A Federal Aviation Administration inspector witnessed the accident, and a video of the accident was posted on a local media website. The inspector's description and the landing shown in the video were consistent with the pilot's description of events. The airplane landed hard in a flat attitude, the nose landing gear collapsed immediately, and the airplane nosed over and came to rest inverted.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's improper landing flare, which resulted in a hard landing and subsequent nose-over.

Findings

Aircraft Landing flare - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Environmental issues Soft surface - Contributed to outcome

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Factual Information

History of Flight

	H. H. E. (5.6.)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Hard landing (Defining event)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor; Sport Pilot	Age:	77,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine; Sport pilot	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Sport pilot	Last FAA Medical Exam:	January 9, 2012
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	3637.3 hours (Total, all aircraft), 400.7 hours (Total, this make and model), 14 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	AEROPRO CZ	Registration:	N340TP
Model/Series:	EUROFOX LSA NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2006	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental light sport (Special)	Serial Number:	20206
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 9, 2016 Condition	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1235 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	27 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	400.7 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	912 ULS
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	100 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KFHB,17 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	18 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	14:55 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	122°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 3700 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	100°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.34 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	25°C / 17°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	FERNANDINA BEACH, FL (FHB)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Kingsland, GA (N/A)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	10:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	Oakwell R/C Airfield N/A	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	16 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry;Soft
Runway Used:	048	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	836 ft / 70 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Straight-in

Wreckage and Impact Information

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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:	30.774723,-81.754447

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Rayner, Brian
Additional Participating Persons:	Steve Davidson; FAA/FSDO; Atlanta, GA
Original Publish Date:	September 7, 2017
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=95021

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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