



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location:	Bristol, Tennessee	Accident Number:	GAA18CA026
Date & Time:	October 26, 2017, 12:40 Local	Registration:	N230MG
Aircraft:	JOHN A BREWER ELA AVIACION 10 ECLI	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot of the gyroplane reported that, when he returned to the airport for landing, the wind was calm. After touchdown, the gyroplane was on a slow roll when the tower controller asked the pilot if he wanted to exit at intersection Charlie. The pilot was about to reply to the controller when the gyroplane unexpectedly tipped over and came to rest on its side.

The gyroplane sustained substantial damage to the horizontal and vertical stabilizers.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical malfunctions or failures with the gyroplane 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 maintain lateral control during the landing roll.

#### Findings

Aircraft

Personnel issues

Lateral/bank control - Not attained/maintained

Aircraft control - Pilot

# **Factual Information**

#### **History of Flight**

Landing-landing roll

Loss of control on ground (Defining event)

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Private	Age:	57,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Gyroplane	Restraint Used:	4-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:	May 17, 2013
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	October 25, 2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1570 hours (Total, all aircraft), 24 hours (Total, this make and model), 1480 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 40 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

#### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	JOHN A BREWER	Registration:	N230MG
Model/Series:	ELA AVIACION 10 ECLI NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Gyroplane
Year of Manufacture:	2016	Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	1014
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	September 19, 2017 Condition	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1234 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	104 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	914 UL
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	115 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:	KTRI,1525 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	64°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.98 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	13°C / 2°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Bristol, TN (TRI )	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Bristol, TN (TRI )	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	11:40 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class D

## **Airport Information**

Airport:	TRI-CITIES TRI	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1518 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	23	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	8000 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	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:	36.468612,-82.415275(est)

#### **Administrative Information**

nstances of this accident as described

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 <u>here</u>.