

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Ashland, Virginia Accident Number: GAA18CA228

Date & Time: April 17, 2018, 09:30 Local Registration: N404TA

Aircraft: COSTRUZIONI AERONAUTICHE TECNA P92 EAGLET Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Hard landing **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Instructional

Analysis

The flight instructor reported that, while the airplane was in the landing flare for a touch-and-go landing, the student pilot allowed the airspeed to become too low, and he instructed the student to perform a go around. The student applied full power and retracted the flaps, but the airplane continued to descend, so the instructor "got on the controls with him."

During the go-around, the airplane touched down on the runway hard, bounced, and the instructor reported hearing a "ping" and observed that the right main landing gear was no longer attached. The instructor continued the go-around and entered the traffic pattern; during the approach, he observed the right main landing gear laying on the right side of the runway. He landed the airplane and it veered to the right off of the runway.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage.

The flight instructor reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

The automated weather observation station located on the airport reported that, about 36 minutes before the accident, the wind was from 250° at 9 knots. The airplane landed on runway 34.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

The student pilot's improper landing flare and the flight instructor's delayed remedial action, which resulted in a hard landing.

Findings

Aircraft	Landing flare - Not attained/maintained	
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Student/instructed pilot	
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Instructor/check pilot	
Personnel issues	Delayed action - Instructor/check pilot	
Environmental issues	Crosswind - Effect on operation	

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Hard landing (Defining event)	
Landing	Landing gear collapse	
Landing-flare/touchdown	Attempted remediation/recovery	
Landing	Part(s) separation from AC	

Flight instructor Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	43,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	March 22, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	July 11, 2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 2412 hours (Total, all aircraft), 78 hours (Total, this make and model), 2224 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 140 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 39 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Student pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	37,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	March 22, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 26 hours (Total, all aircraft), 13 hours (Total, this make and model), 1 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 13 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	COSTRUZIONI AERONAUTICHE TECNA	Registration:	N404TA
Model/Series:	P92 EAGLET NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2010	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Special light-sport (Special)	Serial Number:	1327
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	February 9, 2018 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1320 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2075.1 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
ELT:	C91A installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	912ULS
Registered Owner:	HEART OF VIRGINIA AVIATION INC	Rated Power:	100 Horsepower
Operator:	HEART OF VIRGINIA AVIATION INC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Pilot school (141)

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KOFP,205 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	12:54 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	92°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 7000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	250°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.89 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	6°C / -4°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Ashland, VA (OFP)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Ashland, VA (OFP)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	08:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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Airport Information

Airport:	HANOVER COUNTY MUNI OFP	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	206 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	34	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5402 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Go around;Touch and go;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	37.708057,-77.436386(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Benhoff, Kathryn
Additional Participating Persons:	Joe Lewis; FAA; Richmond, VA
Original Publish Date:	September 10, 2018
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=97100

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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