



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

Location:	ADELANTO, CA	Accident Number:	LAX95LA242
Date & Time:	07/01/1995, 1400 PDT	Registration:	N7322
Aircraft:	Miller, Terry W. TERN	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

On July 1, 1995, at 1400 hours Pacific daylight time, a Showalter Tern Sailplane glider, N7322, dragged the right wing tip during an aero tow departure on runway 07 at Krey Field, Adelanto, California. The pilot was beginning a local visual flight rules personal flight. The glider, registered to and operated by the pilot, sustained substantial damage. The certificated private pilot, the sole occupant, was not injured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed.

The pilot reported this accident to the National Transportation Safety Board on July 7, 1995. He said that during the aero tow, the glider right wing tip dragged the runway and then "spun around." The right wing folded and the tail section separated. He also said the airplane did not experience any preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures, and that the surface winds were calm.

The pilot said in the accident report that the glider departed runway 07. When the pilot initially reported this accident to the Safety Board on July 7, 1995, he said the airplane departed runway 29. He also indicated in the report that the surface winds were from the southeast between 0 and 15 knots.

In the accident report, the pilot said that during the aero tow the left wing raised. He applied left aileron, but there was insufficient aileron control and the right wing continued downward until it struck the ground. The aero tow airplane pilot released the glider when the glider right wing struck the ground.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	34, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
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:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	143 hours (Total, all aircraft), 16 hours (Total, this make and model), 143 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 39 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 23 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Miller, Terry W.	Registration:	N7322
Model/Series:	TERN TERN	Aircraft Category:	Glider
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental	Serial Number:	7-69
Landing Gear Type:	Skid	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	05/01/1995, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	31 Hours	Engines:	Unknown
Airframe Total Time:	300 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	SEAN R. ECKSTEIN	Rated Power:	
Operator:	SEAN R. ECKSTEIN	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0000	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	100 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	15 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	225°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	35° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1400 PDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	KREY FIELD	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	3020 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	A. D LLORENTE
Additional Participating Persons:	ROGER BROWNLOW; RIVERSIDE, CA
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .