



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

Location:	BAY CITY, MI	Accident Number:	CHI98LA231
Date & Time:	07/01/1998, 1520 EDT	Registration:	N159MK
Aircraft:	KERR STARTDUSTER TOO	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On July 1, 1998, at 1520 eastern daylight time, a Starduster Too, N159MK, operated by a private pilot experienced a right main gear collapse while landing at the Bay City Clements Municipal Airport, Bay City, Michigan. The pilot and passenger were not injured. The airplane was substantially damaged. The 14 CFR Part 91 personal flight was operating in visual meteorological conditions. The flight originated from the Bay City Clements Municipal Airport at 1415 eastern daylight time.

The pilot reported that upon landing he lost directional control of the airplane. He stated the airplane swerved on the runway, then skidded sideways off the side of the runway. The airplane then traveled onto a taxiway where it contacted a 3 to 4 inch rise between the grass and the pavement. The right main landing gear collapsed then the rise was contacted. The pilot/builder reported the loss of directional control was a result of an under inflated tailwheel. He reported it should have been inflated to 38 psi due to the extra weight of having a passenger on board.

Inspection of the airplane by an Inspector from the Federal Aviation Administration Grand Rapids, Michigan, Flight Standards District Office revealed the right main landing gear separated at the attachment weld. When the right main gear collapsed the lower right wing contacted the terrain. This resulted in a failure of the right lower wing rear spar.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	70, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Center
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	05/11/1998
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1453 hours (Total, all aircraft), 649 hours (Total, this make and model), 1235 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	KERR	Registration:	N159MK
Model/Series:	STARTDUSTER TOO STARTDUSTE	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental	Serial Number:	MK-2
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-435
Registered Owner:	MATTHEW KERR	Rated Power:	190 hp
Operator:	MATTHEW KERR	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	MBS, 668 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	5 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1545 CDT	Direction from Accident Site:	260°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	13 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	360°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	27° C / 8° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	(3CM)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	(3CM)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	Class C

Airport Information

Airport:	JAMES CLEMENTS (3CM)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	585 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	36	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3800 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	PAMELA S SULLIVAN
Additional Participating Persons:	FRANK SCHAEFER; GRAND RAPIDS, MI
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/ .