



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

Location:	Cambridge, OH	Accident Number:	IAD04LA019
Date & Time:	05/01/2004, 1130 EDT	Registration:	N626EA
Aircraft:	Krotje VM-1 Esqual	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On May 1, 2004, about 1130 eastern daylight time, a homebuilt VM-1 Esqual, N626EA, was substantially damaged during an attempted takeoff from Cambridge Municipal Airport (CDI), Cambridge, Ohio. The certificated private pilot received minor injuries. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan had been filed for the local personal flight, conducted under 14 CFR Part 91.

According to the pilot, he attempted to take off from runway 22. After he set the throttle to takeoff power, the airplane "started pulling abruptly to the left." The pilot applied "strong right rudder," in an effort to counteract the turning, but to no avail. The airplane then veered off the left side of the runway, struck runway lights, and went into a creek.

A Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) inspector examined the airplane after the accident and submitted a Service Difficulty Report (SDR). According to the report, the airplane was equipped with a free-castoring nose landing gear and was configured to use motorcycle brakes on the main landing gear. A post-accident examination of the brakes revealed that the right brake operated normally; however, the left brake dragged due to a lack of clearance between the brake pad and the brake rotor. The lack of clearance was attributable to the design of the brakes and their adaptation from a motorcycle to an airplane.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	68, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
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:	01/15/2004
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	04/27/2003
Flight Time:	519 hours (Total, all aircraft), 9 hours (Total, this make and model), 519 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Krotje	Registration:	N626EA
Model/Series:	VM-1 Esqual	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental	Serial Number:	E180032
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	03/13/2004, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	14.6 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	138.4 Hours as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Jabiru
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	3300
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	120 hp
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	ZZV, 900 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	15 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1142 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	270°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 2300 ft agl	Visibility	9 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 3100 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	200°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	21° C / 16° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Cambridge, OH (CDI)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	New Philadelphi, OH (PHD)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	EDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	Cambridge Municipal Airport (CDI)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	799 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	22	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4298 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	39.975000, -81.577778

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Paul R Cox
Additional Participating Persons:	Lee Thiel; FAA/FSDO; Columbus, OH
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/ .