



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Fossil, OR	Accident Number:	SEA04LA178
Date & Time:	09/01/2004, 1235 PDT	Registration:	N4033G
Aircraft:	Helio Aircraft LTD H800	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

Immediately after becoming airborne the pilot realized that he had failed to remove the exterior aileron wing locks. About 75 to 100 feet above ground level (AGL) the pilot reduced power and lowered the nose to maintain airspeed and a wings level attitude. About 75 feet AGL the left wing started to drop slowly and eventually impacted the ground at an approximate 30 to 35 degree left bank. A post crash examination of the accident site revealed the left and right aileron wing gust locks were located approximately 10 and 15 feet on the ground outboard of their respective wingtips.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to remove the aileron wing gust locks prior to flight, which resulted in a loss of control during the descent/emergency landing. A factor contributing to the accident was the pilot's inadequate preflight.

Findings

Occurrence #1: MISCELLANEOUS/OTHER
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF

Findings

1. (C) FLIGHT CONTROL,GUST LOCK - NOT REMOVED
2. (F) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - GROUND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	52
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	3213 hours (Total, all aircraft), 626 hours (Total, this make and model), 3213 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 43 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 21 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Helio Aircraft LTD	Registration:	N4033G
Model/Series:	H800	Engines:	1 Turbo Prop
Operator:	John Frank Schmidt III	Engine Manufacturer:	Avco Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-720-ALB
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	RDM, 3077 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 3500 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	18 knots / 23 knots, 310°
Temperature:	20°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Fossil, OR	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	44.847778, -120.410278		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Thomas M Little

Adopted Date: 01/24/2005

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/>.

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