



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

Location:	Bethel, AK	Accident Number:	ANC05CA054
Date & Time:	04/03/2005, 1700 AKD	Registration:	N9091D
Aircraft:	Piper PA-18	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On April 3, 2005, about 1700 Alaska daylight time, a tailwheel-equipped Piper PA-18 airplane, N9091D, sustained substantial damage while landing at the Bethel Airport, Bethel, Alaska. The airplane was being operated as a visual flight rules (VFR) personal flight under Title 14, CFR Part 91, when the accident occurred. The solo private pilot was not injured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and a VFR flight plan was filed. The flight originated at the McGrath Airport, McGrath, Alaska, about 1354.

During a telephone conversation with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) investigator-in-charge (IIC), on April 14, the pilot reported that he was landing on runway 36, which required a correction for a slight left crosswind. The pilot stated that as the airplane touched down on the runway, it bounced slightly and settled onto the right main tire, and the airplane veered to the right. He said he attempted to abort the landing, but the airplane went off the runway, and ground looped to the right. The airplane sustained structural damage to the wings, fuselage, and empennage. The pilot noted there were no preaccident mechanical problems with the airplane.

Bethel Airport weather observation at the time of the accident consisted of: Sky conditions and ceiling, 1,500 feet scattered; visibility, 10 statute miles; wind, 320 degrees (magnetic) at 11 knots.

In the pilot's written statement to the NTSB, dated May 17, 2005, the pilot wrote: "Given to Kenai flight service station. No further recollection."

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	47, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Front
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 With Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	06/01/2004
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	60 hours (Total, all aircraft), 40 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N9091D
Model/Series:	PA-18	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18-6469
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	08/01/2004, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1750 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3907 Hours at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A2B
Registered Owner:	Paul D. Tony	Rated Power:	160 hp
Operator:	Paul D. Tony	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	BET, 123 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	1704 ADT	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 1500 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	11 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	320°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.62 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-17°C / -21°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	McGrath, AK (MCG)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	Bethel, AK (BET)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1354 ADT	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Bethel (BET)	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:	123 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	36	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	6398 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop

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:	60.766667, -161.833333

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Clinton O Johnson
Additional Participating Persons:	Larry K Peterson; Anchorage FSDO
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
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/ .