



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	San Andreas, CA	Accident Number:	LAX05CA287
Date & Time:	09/01/2005, 1615 PDT	Registration:	N1644M
Aircraft:	Cessna A185E	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	4 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The airplane encountered a dust devil during the takeoff ground roll, then it veered off the runway, and collided with a berm. About 600 feet into the takeoff ground roll the airplane veered to the left and continued in that direction even with the pilot's counteractive control input. During the event, the pilot reduced the power, the right main landing gear sheared off, and the airplane came to rest on the right wing and horizontal stabilizer. Witnesses informed the pilot that they observed a dust devil approach the airplane during takeoff roll. The pilot reported experiencing no anomalies with the airframe or engine prior to the event.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the pilot's failure to maintain directional control of the airplane upon encountering a dust devil during the takeoff roll.

Findings

Occurrence #1: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

1. WEATHER CONDITION - DUST DEVIL/WHIRLWIND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

2. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

3. TERRAIN CONDITION - BERM

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	39, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3	Last Medical Exam:	09/01/2003
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1200 hours (Total, all aircraft), 300 hours (Total, this make and model), 5 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	Cessna	Registration:	N1644M
Model/Series:	A185E	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18501847
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520D
Registered Owner:	Skyline Holdings, Inc.	Rated Power:	
Operator:	Casey M. Long	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	SCK	Observation Time:	1655
Distance from Accident Site:		Condition of Light:	Day
Direction from Accident Site:		Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Temperature/Dew Point:	33°C / 11°C
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots, 310°	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	29.79 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	San Andreas, CA (CPU)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1615 PDT	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Calaveras County (CPU)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1320 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	31	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3603 ft / 60 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	3 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	
Total Injuries:	4 None		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Nicole L Charnon	Adopted Date:	12/20/2005
Additional Participating Persons:	; Federal Aviation Administration; Oakland, CA		
Publish Date:			
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/ .		

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