



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

Location:	Scotts, MI	Accident Number:	CHI06CA091
Date & Time:	03/04/2006, 1500 EST	Registration:	N46365
Aircraft:	Balkema STOL Aircraft	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

The experimental amateur-built airplane impacted terrain during a forced landing to a field following a loss of engine power on downwind. A post accident ground fire destroyed the airplane. The pilot stated that he was approximately "600 ft above ground ... on a wide down wind airspeed 118 MPH at 2400 RPM, retarded throttle, engine sped up, pumped throttle 2 to 3 times, felt like no connection to aircraft response. Aircraft was slowing down saw an open field, thought I would overshoot, I steepened the decent and decided I could S turn to use it. Then I had to steepen the decent again to maintain airspeed at least as steep as an autorotation as in a helicopter. I changed my field to one right below me. ... Impacted the ground, one bounce, landing gear flattened out, engine stopped, open door exited aircraft, came back 1 to 2 minutes latter to look. A fire had started up front by gasglator, I tried throwing dirt on it to put it out, did not help, so I got out of the way and watched to burn." A Federal Aviation Administration inspector examined the wreckage. The wreckage did not reveal any anomalies in reference to the engine's power loss.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	70, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	10/01/2004
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	7133 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Balkema	Registration:	N46365
Model/Series:	STOL Aircraft	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental	Serial Number:	006
Landing Gear Type:	Unknown	Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	LOM
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	M332B
Registered Owner:	John Balkema	Rated Power:	
Operator:	John Balkema	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	AZO, 874 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	3 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1453 EST	Direction from Accident Site:	270°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 4000 ft agl	Visibility	
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	250°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.41 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	3° C / -7° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Scotts, MI (66MI)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1500 EST	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Runway Surface Type:
Airport Elevation:	Runway Surface Condition:
Runway Used:	IFR Approach:
Runway Length/Width:	VFR Approach/Landing:

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	42.228333, -85.484444

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Edward F Malinowski
Additional Participating Persons:	John Golda; Grand Rapids, MI
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 pubinquiry@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .