



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Arkansas City, KS	Accident Number:	DEN07CA001
Date & Time:	10/01/2006, 0830 CDT	Registration:	N5950X
Aircraft:	Brantly Helicopter B-2	Injuries:	2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

According to the pilot, during the attempted takeoff, he raised the collective and the helicopter "became light on its skids." The pilot verified the wind conditions based on his observation with nearby trees. The wind was observed to be "light" and from the south-southwest direction. The pilot initiated a turn into the direction of the wind, and prior to transitional lift, the rotor RPM dropped. The pilot attempted to recover the drop in rotor RPM by lowering the collective. The helicopter skids touched the terrain, and the helicopter rolled over on it's right side. The pilot stated, "I believe I got a wind gust that contributed to the low [rotor] RPM."

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the pilot's failure to maintain aircraft control during takeoff. A contributing factor was the low rotor RPM.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF

Findings

1. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) ROTOR RPM - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. WEATHER CONDITION - GUSTS

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

Findings

4. DYNAMIC ROLLOVER - ENCOUNTERED - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. TERRAIN CONDITION - GROUND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	59
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	
Flight Time:	1575 hours (Total, all aircraft), 275 hours (Total, this make and model), 20 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Brantly Helicopter	Registration:	N5950X
Model/Series:	B-2	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	John W. Read	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	VO-360-A1B
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:		Weather Information Source:	Unknown
Lowest Ceiling:		Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	/ ,
Temperature:		Visibility:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Arkansas City, KS	Destination:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	
Latitude, Longitude:	37.066667, -96.916667		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Aaron M Sauer	Adopted Date:	01/31/2007
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident docket 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 pubin@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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