



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Talladega, AL	Accident Number:	NYC08LA050
Date & Time:	12/01/2007, 1310 CST	Registration:	N95CH
Aircraft:	Bell 206-L4	Injuries:	4 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled - Air Medical (Medical Emergency)		

Analysis

The pilot performed an off-airport landing in the helicopter, to pick up a patient for transport to a nearby hospital. During the subsequent takeoff, the helicopter's tail rotor struck a wire that was located about 30 feet above the ground, oriented perpendicular to its flight path. The pilot immediately landed without further incident. Neither the pilot, nor the crew were previously informed of the wire, which was not observed until just prior to contact. The helicopter sustained damage to the tail rotor, vertical stabilizer, and left aft storage compartment door.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate visual lookout, which resulted in an in-flight collision with a wire.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF

Findings

1. OBJECT - WIRE,STATIC
2. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	61
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	Helicopter
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	11166 hours (Total, all aircraft), 480 hours (Total, this make and model), 9516 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 16 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 16 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Bell	Registration:	N95CH
Model/Series:	206-L4	Engines:	1 Turbo Shaft
Operator:	Omniflight Helicopters, Inc	Engine Manufacturer:	Rolls-Royce
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	250-C30P
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled - Air Medical (Medical Emergency)		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	ANB, 612 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots / , 130°
Temperature:	19° C	Visibility	9 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Talladega, AL (NONE)	Destination:	Ironton, AL

Airport Information

Airport:	NONE	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	NA	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	3 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	33.422778, -86.936111		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Luke Schiada	Adopted Date:	06/30/2008
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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