



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Arcola, TX	Accident Number:	DFW08CA054
Date & Time:	01/01/2008, 1600 CST	Registration:	N579RM
Aircraft:	Micco Aircraft Company MAC-145B	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

Analysis

The private pilot was conducting a touch-and-go in a tailwheel-equipped airplane with a direct crosswind component of 15 knots gusting up to 20 knots from the left side of the airplane. During landing, the crosswinds began pushing the airplane to the right side of the runway. While correcting back to centerline the pilot reported that a combination of over-correction and gusty crosswinds caused a loss of control. The airplane ground looped, departed the left side of the runway, and came to rest upright with the nose of the aircraft pointed approximately 180 degree from runway heading. Damage was sustained to the wing spar.

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. A contributing factor was the prevailing crosswind.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CROSSWIND
2. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Private	Age:	54, Female
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With Waivers/Limitations	Last Medical Exam:	09/01/2006
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	11/01/2006
Flight Time:	1000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 260 hours (Total, this make and model), 870 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 16 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	Micco Aircraft Company	Registration:	N579RM
Model/Series:	MAC-145B	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	260004
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	09/01/2007, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2850 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	516 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	260 hp
Operator:	On file	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	SGR	Observation Time:	1553
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:	13°C / -10°C
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	15 knots/ 20 knots, 360°	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	30.62 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	GONZALES, TX (T20)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	HOUSTON, TX (AXH)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1500 CST	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	HOUSTON-SOUTHWEST (AXH)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	68 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	090	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5003 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop; Straight-in

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		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Jason T Aguilera	Adopted Date:	01/31/2008
Additional Participating Persons:	KC Storn; FAA; Houston, TX		
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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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report.