



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Titusville, FL	Accident Number:	MIA08FA070A
Date & Time:	03/01/2008, 0836 EDT	Registration:	N244CU
Aircraft:	Ulrich Christen Velocity XL RG	Injuries:	1 Fatal, 1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The accident, an on-ground collision between two airplanes at a non-towered airport, occurred when the lead airplane in a flight of four RV-8s, which had landed and exited the runway, was struck by a Velocity not associated with the flight. Witnesses stated that the flight of four RV-8s announced their intentions to land in formation on Runway 15 over the radio and on the same frequency that the Velocity announced its intention to conduct a straight in approach to Runway 15. The Velocity arrived on final just behind the fourth RV-8, and touched down on the runway close to the approach end. The Velocity then drifted left off the runway and onto the grass. It passed to the left of the three trailing RV-8s that were still on the runway, and struck the lead RV-8, which had cleared the runway to the left on a taxiway in the vicinity of the departure end of the runway. At some point prior to the collision, engine power on the Velocity increased. Examination of the Velocity did not reveal any evidence of preimpact mechanical failures or malfunctions, and the weather in the area was conducive for visual flight rules operations.

Flight Events

Landing-landing roll - Runway excursion
Taxi-from runway - Ground collision

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot of the Velocity's failure to see and avoid the flight of four RV-8s that had landed and were in the process of clearing the runway.

Findings

Personnel issues-Action/decision-Info processing/decision-Decision making/judgment-Pilot - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	63
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	1728 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	Ulrich Christen	Registration:	N244CU
Model/Series:	Velocity XL RG	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Ulrich R. Christen	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540-SER
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	ORL, 113 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	3 knots, 90°
Temperature:	18°C / 11°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Sebastian, FL (X26)	Destination:	Titusville, FL (X21)

Airport Information

Airport:	Arthur Dunn Air Park (X21)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	15	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	2961 ft / 70 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	On-Ground

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Ralph L Wilson	Adopted Date:	07/28/2009
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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