



National Transportation Safety Board

Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Griffith, IN	Accident Number:	CEN09LA276
Date & Time:	05/02/2009, 0740 CDT	Registration:	N20GH
Aircraft:	HAWKINS AUGUST E AVENTURA II	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that the airspeed indicator failed during takeoff. He elected to continue the takeoff because there was insufficient distance to stop on the remaining runway. The pilot intended to remain in the traffic pattern and return for landing. However, as the pilot turned to left crosswind the airplane became difficult to control, pitched down and impacted the ground. A post accident examination revealed that the tubing from the pitot tube was disconnected from a mating length of tubing located at the left wing root. The left wing root structure was intact and impact damage did not appear to have contributed to the pitot static system discontinuity. No other anomalies associated with a pre-impact failure were observed.

Flight Events

- Takeoff - Flight instrument malf/fail
- Takeoff - Aerodynamic stall/spin
- Uncontrolled descent - Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain control of the airplane due to an inadvertent stall. Contributing to the accident was the failure of the airspeed indicator due to separation of the pitot-static line at the left wing root.

Findings

- Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-(general)-Not attained/maintained - C
- Aircraft-Aircraft systems-Navigation system-Airspeed/mach indicating-Failure - F
- Aircraft-Aircraft systems-Navigation system-Pitot/static system-Damaged/degraded
- Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	57
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	1790 hours (Total, all aircraft), 140 hours (Total, this make and model), 1732 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	HAWKINS AUGUST E	Registration:	N20GH
Model/Series:	AVENTURA II	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	On file	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	912ULS
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	GYG, 591 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:	5 knots, 240°
Temperature:	11°C / 5°C	Visibility	15 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Griffith, IN (05C)	Destination:	Griffith, IN (05C)

Airport Information

Airport:	Griffith-Merrillville (05C)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	26	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	4900 ft / 75 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Timothy Sorensen	Adopted Date:	11/09/2009
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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