



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Brooksville, FL	Accident Number:	ERA10LA009
Date & Time:	10/01/2009, 1400 EDT	Registration:	N81FW
Aircraft:	BUTLER AIRCRAFT COMPANY AEROSTAR	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot/owner selected the landing gear to the extended position in preparation for landing. The amber light, which was designed to illuminate temporarily to indicate that the gear was in transit, did not illuminate during the gear extension, but all other indications were normal. After touchdown on the paved runway, the nose gear did not remain extended and the airplane pitched down until the nose contacted the runway surface. The airplane came to a stop on the runway and sustained substantial damage. Preliminary examination revealed that the cockpit landing gear position indicator lights functioned properly. However, lack of replacement parts availability had prevented the repair of the airplane through at least January 2011, and the detailed functional checks and examinations that were planned to be conducted concurrently with the repair have not been accomplished. Maintenance records documented several recent, preaccident repairs to the nose and main landing gear systems, but it could not be determined whether the nose gear collapse was related to those maintenance activities.

Flight Events

Landing-landing roll - Landing gear collapse

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
The collapse of the nose landing gear during landing rollout for undetermined reasons.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft systems-Landing gear system-Nose/tail landing gear-Failure - C
Not determined-Not determined-(general)-(general)-Unknown/Not determined - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	62
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1847 hours (Total, all aircraft), 51 hours (Total, this make and model), 1633 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 71 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	BUTLER AIRCRAFT COMPANY	Registration:	N81FW
Model/Series:	AEROSTAR 601	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Operator:	On file	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	BKV, 76 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, 10°
Temperature:	28° C / 9° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	St Petersburg, FL (SPG)	Destination:	Brooksville, FL (BKV)

Airport Information

Airport:	Hernando County Airport (BKV)	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Runway Used:	03	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	5015 ft / 150 ft		

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Michael C Huhn	Adopted Date:	07/18/2011
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=74867		

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