



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Visalia, CA	Accident Number:	WPR10LA271
Date & Time:	06/01/2010, 1320 PDT	Registration:	N4399J
Aircraft:	SHAFFER WILLIAM C QUICKSILVER MX II SP	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

A witness observed the airplane in a field moving back and forth across a make shift dirt landing strip. He then observed the airplane take off and fly in a “circling maneuver” for approximately one hour. The witness stated that the airplane was flying eastbound over the makeshift landing strip and he watched as it attempted to land in windy conditions. He observed the airplane blown by the wind slightly to the south of the landing strip and crash, flipping over an unknown number of times. A police officer noted that this may have been the pilot’s first actual flight in this airplane and that at the time of the accident there was “a variable wind in the area that did pick up.” Examination of the airplane by a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) inspector revealed that the airplane landed on a soft/rough surface off the runway which resulted in the collapse of the right main gear. Further damage to the airplane occurred when the pusher propeller cut through a tail support tube of the airplane. The pilot did not hold any pilot or medical certificate.

Flight Events

Landing - Other weather encounter
Landing - Loss of control in flight
Landing - Runway excursion
Landing - Landing gear collapse

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
The pilot's inadequate compensation for the gusty crosswind conditions and failure to maintain runway alignment while landing.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Crosswind correction-Not attained/maintained - C
Personnel issues-Action/decision-Action-Incorrect action performance-Pilot - C
Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Wind-Crosswind-Response/compensation - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	None	Age:	56
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	100 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	SHAFFER WILLIAM C	Registration:	N4399J
Model/Series:	QUICKSILVER MX II SP	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Roland Longpre	Engine Manufacturer:	ROTAX
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	582DCDI
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	KVIS, 295 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:	6 knots, 320°
Temperature:	27° C / 10° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Visalia, CA (None)	Destination:	Visalia, CA (None)

Airport Information

Airport:	Private Runway (None)	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	N/A	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

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):	Jefferey R Rich	Adopted Date:	10/21/2010
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=76181		

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