



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

<b>Location:</b>	Carlisle, AR	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CEN11CA143
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	01/02/2011, 1300 CST	<b>Registration:</b>	N876KF
<b>Aircraft:</b>	RARDIN WILLIAM I KITFOX III	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot was landing his single-engine experimental airplane in calm wind conditions, when the left main gear collapsed upon touchdown. The airplane veered to the right and the pilot attempted to keep the airplane on the runway by applying engine power and right aileron; however, the airplane exited the runway and spun, which resulted in structural damage to the fuselage. A postaccident examination of the left main landing gear strut revealed that the strut failed due to a pre-existing crack in the weld joint. The crack would not have been readily visible to the pilot during a pre-flight inspection due to the construction of the strut. The bracing around the strut exhibited signs of distress with twisted and shiny fracture surfaces. No other anomalies were found with the airplane.

## Flight Events

Landing-flare/touchdown - Loss of control on ground  
Landing-flare/touchdown - Sys/Comp malf/fail (non-power)

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:  
Failure of the left main landing gear strut due to a pre-existing crack in the weld joint.

## Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft systems-Landing gear system-Main gear strut/axle/truck-Failure - C  
Not determined-Not determined-(general)-(general)-Unknown/Not determined - C

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	55
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Flight Time:</b>	909 hours (Total, all aircraft), 59 hours (Total, this make and model)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Manufacturer:</b>	RARDIN WILLIAM I	<b>Registration:</b>	N876KF
<b>Model/Series:</b>	KITFOX III	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Operator:</b>	John Roman	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	BOMBARDIER
<b>Air Carrier Operating Certificate:</b>	None	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	ROTAX (ALL)
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>		<b>Weather Information Source:</b>	Unknown
<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	
<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	
<b>Temperature:</b>		<b>Visibility:</b>	
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>			
<b>Departure Point:</b>	N. Little Rock, AR (ORK)	<b>Destination:</b>	Carlisle, AR (4M3)

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Carlisle Municipal (4M3)	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	18	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>			

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Leah D Yeager	<b>Adopted Date:</b>	05/26/2011
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=78116">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=78116</a>		

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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.