



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Allentown, PA	Accident Number:	ERA11CA202
Date & Time:	03/02/2011, 1445 EST	Registration:	N9172V
Aircraft:	PIPER PA 46-350P	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that he landed the airplane in a right crosswind and wind gusts. He applied a right crosswind correction, flared, and touched down with the right main landing gear on the runway. When the pilot removed the right crosswind control corrections, the airplane landed hard and as the nose wheel settled onto the runway, the airplane swerved to the left. The nose landing gear collapsed, resulting in substantial damage to the firewall and forward baggage compartment supports. The pilot reported no preimpact mechanical problems with the airplane.

Flight Events

Landing-flare/touchdown - Abnormal runway contact
Landing-landing roll - Landing gear collapse

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
The pilot's failure to adequately compensate for crosswind conditions, resulting in a hard landing.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Crosswind correction-Not attained/maintained - C
Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C
Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Wind-Crosswind-Effect on operation
Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Wind-Crosswind-Response/compensation

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	78
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	4499 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3321 hours (Total, this make and model), 4499 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 37 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 17 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	PIPER	Registration:	N9172V
Model/Series:	PA 46-350P	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	James J. Dooley Jr	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	TIO-540-AE2A
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	XLL, 399 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 8000 ft agl
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	17 knots/ 27 knots, 290°
Temperature:	11°C / 3°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Baltimore, MD (BWI)	Destination:	Allentown, PA (XLL)

Airport Information

Airport:	Allentown Queen City Municipal (XLL)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	25	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	3949 ft / 75 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Carrol A Smith	Adopted Date:	07/18/2011
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=78632		

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