



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Location: | San Antonio, TX | Accident Number: | CEN11CA257 |
| Date & Time: | 04/01/2011, 1415 CDT | Registration: | N79286 |
| Aircraft: | CESSNA 172K | Injuries: | 1 None |
| Flight Conducted Under: | Part 91: General Aviation - Personal | | |

Analysis

The student pilot lost directional control of the airplane while landing in gusty wind conditions. The airplane bounced, and touched back down in the grass alongside of the runway, before the left wing impacted a tree. The airplane's wings and fuselage sustained substantial damage. The closest weather reporting station was located 15 nautical miles to the southeast of the accident site. Twenty minutes before the accident, the reported wind was from 190 degrees at 12 knots, gusting to 18 knots. The student pilot further reported that there were no mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane.

Flight Events

- Landing-flare/touchdown - Abnormal runway contact
- Landing-flare/touchdown - Loss of control in flight
- Landing-flare/touchdown - Runway excursion
- Landing-flare/touchdown - Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
The student pilot's inadequate compensation for wind while landing in gusty wind conditions.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Directional control-Not attained/maintained - C

Student Pilot Information

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|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|------|
| Certificate: | Student | Age: | 22 |
| Airplane Rating(s): | None | Instrument Rating(s): | None |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | None | Instructor Rating(s): | None |
| Flight Time: | 14 hours (Total, all aircraft), 14 hours (Total, this make and model), 12 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft) | | |

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

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|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Aircraft Manufacturer: | CESSNA | Registration: | N79286 |
| Model/Series: | 172K | Engines: | 1 Reciprocating |
| Operator: | ALAMO AERODYNE INC | Engine Manufacturer: | LYCOMING |
| Air Carrier Operating Certificate: | None | Engine Model/Series: | O-320 SERIES |
| Flight Conducted Under: | Part 91: General Aviation - Personal | | |

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | | Weather Information Source: | Pilot |
| Conditions at Accident Site: | Visual Conditions | Lowest Ceiling: | None |
| Condition of Light: | Day | Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction: | 12 knots/ 18 knots, 190° |
| Temperature: | 30°C / 14°C | Visibility | 10 Miles |
| Precipitation and Obscuration: | No Obscuration; No Precipitation | | |
| Departure Point: | Boerne, TX (5C1) | Destination: | San Antonio, TX (8T8) |

Airport Information

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Airport: | San Geronimo Airpark (8T8) | Runway Surface Type: | Asphalt |
| Runway Used: | 17 | Runway Surface Condition: | Dry |
| Runway Length/Width: | 3000 ft / 40 ft | | |

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

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|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------|------------|
| Investigator In Charge (IIC): | Timothy LeBaron | Adopted Date: | 08/11/2011 |
| 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=78735 | | |

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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.