



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

<b>Location:</b>	Hartland, ME	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ERA11CA500
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	09/01/2011, 1730 EDT	<b>Registration:</b>	None
<b>Aircraft:</b>	SPECTRUM RX 550	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Minor
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot stated that, while on a local flight, he was circling a field when the engine stopped running. He then executed a forced landing to the field, which was not uniformly level. During the landing the right wing hit the ground and the airplane cartwheeled before coming to rest upside down. The pilot stated that he believed that water got into the gasoline, which caused the engine to stop running. A postaccident examination of the airplane revealed that the wing was substantially damaged. No registration number was present on the airplane and no data plate was present on either the airplane or the engine. Review of Federal Aviation Administration records revealed that the airplane was not registered and the pilot was not certificated. The FAA also advised the NTSB that no maintenance records were recovered.

## Flight Events

Prior to flight - Fuel contamination  
Maneuvering - Loss of engine power (total)  
Emergency descent - Off-field or emergency landing  
Landing - Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:  
A total loss of engine power due to fuel contamination.

## Findings

Aircraft-Fluids/misc hardware-Fluids-Fuel-Fluid condition - C  
Personnel issues-Task performance-Inspection-Preflight inspection-Pilot - C  
Personnel issues-Experience/knowledge-Experience/qualifications-Qualification/certification-Pilot

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	None	<b>Age:</b>	51
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Flight Time:</b>	(Estimated) 0 hours (Total, all aircraft), 0 hours (Total, this make and model)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Manufacturer:</b>	SPECTRUM	<b>Registration:</b>	None
<b>Model/Series:</b>	RX 550	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Rotax
<b>Air Carrier Operating Certificate:</b>	None	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	WVL, 333 ft msl	<b>Weather Information Source:</b>	Weather Observation Facility
<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None
<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	3 knots, 250°
<b>Temperature:</b>	23°C / 13°C	<b>Visibility</b>	10 Miles
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Hartland, ME	<b>Destination:</b>	Hartland, ME

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<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>	None

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Todd G Gunther	<b>Adopted Date:</b>	01/18/2012
<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=81880">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=81880</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.