



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Deland, FL	Accident Number:	ERA12FA265
Date & Time:	04/02/2012, 1920 EDT	Registration:	N514KT
Aircraft:	SAPP LARRY E SEAWIND 3000	Injuries:	3 Serious, 2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot/owner flew the experimental amateur-built amphibious airplane with a pilot-rated passenger on a long cross-country flight to a land-based airport the day before the accident. The pilots landed the airplane uneventfully after the cross-country flight; however, while they were en route, the airplane's transponder malfunctioned. The next day, the pilots departed to have the transponder replaced at a nearby maintenance facility. The airplane lost total engine power shortly after takeoff, stalled, and descended into a supermarket located about 1 mile from the departure end of the runway, where it was consumed by a postcrash fire.

The pilot-rated passenger reported that there were no problems with the airplane's takeoff roll and initial climb; however, when the pilot turned to the crosswind leg of the traffic pattern, the engine lost total power. A pilot at the departure airport reported that the accident airplane rotated about 500 feet before the end of the runway and began a shallow climb, while mostly maintaining a high pitch angle. Shortly thereafter, he observed the airplane stall and enter a descending left spin, before it disappeared behind a tree line.

Postaccident examination of wreckage did not reveal any preimpact malfunctions or failures that would have precluded normal engine operation; however, the condition of the wreckage precluded the investigators from functionally checking the engine, its associated components, and fuel system. In addition, it could not be determined if debris that was found in the airplane's fuel system was present before the postcrash fire.

Flight Events

Initial climb - Loss of engine power (total)
Initial climb - Loss of control in flight
Uncontrolled descent - 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 for reasons that could not be determined because the damage and postimpact fire precluded thorough examination of the engine and its systems.

Findings

Not determined-Not determined-(general)-(general)-Unknown/Not determined - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	60
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 20 hours (Total, this make and model), 7 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Pilot-Rated Passenger Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	52
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 4000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 10 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	SAPP LARRY E	Registration:	N514KT
Model/Series:	SEAWIND 3000	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	On file	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540-K1G5D
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	DED, 80 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:	7 knots, 240°
Temperature:	29° C / 15° C	Visibility	7 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Deland, FL (DED)	Destination:	Daytona Beach, FL (DAB)

Airport Information

Airport:	Deland Municipal (DED)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	23	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	4301 ft / 75 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	1 Serious, 2 Minor	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Luke Schiada

Adopted Date: 12/02/2013

Investigation Docket: <http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=83275>

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