



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Philadelphia, PA	Accident Number:	ERA12CA266
Date & Time:	04/02/2012, 1226 EDT	Registration:	N6902L
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-60-602P	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot was cleared to land on runway 26. The recorded surface wind at the airport around the time of the accident was from 330 to 340 degrees at 14 to 18 knots, gusting to 25 knots; a peak wind gust from 350 degrees at 26 knots was recorded about 7 minutes after the accident. The pilot said that he landed on the left main gear with the right main intermittently touching the ground and tried to lower the right wing to improve wheel-to-runway contact but was unsuccessful because of a wind gust. The airplane swerved off the left side of the runway onto the soft grass area, where the airplane's main landing gear collapsed, and both wings were substantially damaged. The pilot reported no preaccident mechanical malfunctions or failures that would have precluded normal operations.

Flight Events

Landing-flare/touchdown - Abnormal runway contact
Landing-landing roll - Loss of control on ground
Landing-landing roll - Runway excursion

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
The pilot's failure to maintain directional control while landing in gusting crosswind conditions.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Directional control-Not attained/maintained - C
Personnel issues-Action/decision-Action-(general)-Pilot - C
Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Wind-Gusts-Effect on operation - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Flight Instructor	Age:	66
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Multi-engine Sea; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine
Flight Time:	3150 hours (Total, all aircraft), 929 hours (Total, this make and model), 29 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	PIPER	Registration:	N6902L
Model/Series:	PA-60-602P	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Operator:	On file	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540 SER
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	PHL, 36 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:	14 knots/ 25 knots, 330°
Temperature:	12° C / -2° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Lock Haven, PA (LHV)	Destination:	Philadelphia, PA (PHL)

Airport Information

Airport:	Philadelphia International (PHL)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	26	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	5000 ft / 150 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Jose Obregon	Adopted Date:	10/15/2012
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=83281		

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