National Transportation Safety Board
Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Lancaster, PA	**Accident Number:**	ERA12CA443
Date & Time:	07/02/2012, 1955 EDT	**Registration:**	N182EV
Aircraft:	EVEKTOR-AEROTECHNIK AS SPORTSTAR PLUS	**Injuries:**	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis
The pilot initiated a takeoff and, as the airplane became airborne, the canopy opened. The pilot attempted to close the canopy and lost control of the airplane. The airplane landed hard on the runway, which resulted in substantial damage to the airframe. The pilot stated that he failed to secure the canopy before takeoff and there were no preaccident mechanical malfunctions or failures that would have precluded normal operations.

Flight Events
Initial climb - Miscellaneous/other
Initial climb - Loss of control in flight
Landing-flare/touchdown - Hard landing

Probable Cause
The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
The pilot's attempt to secure an open canopy during takeoff, which resulted in a loss of control and subsequent hard landing.

Findings
Aircraft-Aircraft structures-Doors-Passenger/crew doors-Incorrect use/operation - C
Personnel issues-Action/decision-Action-Incorrect action performance-Pilot - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	**Age:**	61
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	**Instrument Rating(s):**	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	**Instructor Rating(s):**	None
Flight Time:	97 hours (Total, all aircraft), 10 hours (Total, this make and model), 53 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	EVEKTOR-AEROTECHNIK AS	**Registration:**	N182EV
Model/Series:	SPORTSTAR PLUS	**Engines:**	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Adventure Flight Training LP	**Engine Manufacturer:**	ROTAX
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	**Engine Model/Series:**	912ULS
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	LNS, 403 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:**	Calm
Temperature:	28°C / 13°C	**Visibility**	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Lancaster, PA (LNS)	**Destination:**	Lancaster, PA (LNS)

Airport Information

Airport:	Lancaster Airport (LNS)	**Runway Surface Type:**	Asphalt
Runway Used:	31	**Runway Surface Condition:**	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	4101 ft / 100 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):	Carrol A Smith	**Adopted Date:**	09/13/2012
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=84287		

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.