



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Lawrence, KS	Accident Number:	CEN13LA254
Date & Time:	05/01/2013, 1240 CDT	Registration:	N125KP
Aircraft:	MASON ROBERT KOLB MARK 3X	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The noncertificated pilot departed to the south in a light sport airplane from a soft dirt field. A witness heard the airplane's engine and saw the airplane make a slight right turn before it impacted a fence and trees at the end of the field. A postimpact examination of the aircraft and engine did not reveal any anomalies that would have prevented normal operation. Wind conditions reported 6 miles from the accident site were from 060 degrees at 10 knots gusting to 14 knots; thus the airplane was likely subject to a tailwind during the departure.

Flight Events

Initial climb - Loss of control in flight
Initial climb - Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
The noncertificated pilot's improper decision to depart with a tailwind.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Altitude-Not attained/maintained - C
Personnel issues-Action/decision-Info processing/decision-Decision making/judgment-Pilot - C
Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Wind-Tailwind-Effect on operation - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	None	Age:	60
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	3 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	MASON ROBERT	Registration:	N125KP
Model/Series:	KOLB MARK 3X	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Dennis R. McNish	Engine Manufacturer:	ROTAX
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	582DCDI-99
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	LWC, 832 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:	10 knots/ 14 knots, 60°
Temperature:	26° C / 16° C	Visibility	8 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Lawrence, KS (Pvt)	Destination:	Lawrence, KS (Pvt)

Airport Information

Airport:	Pvt (Pvt)	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Runway Used:	18	Runway Surface Condition:	Soft
Runway Length/Width:	300 ft / 50 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Pamela S Sullivan	Adopted Date:	09/30/2014
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=86800		

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