



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Sonoma, CA	Accident Number:	WPR13CA357
Date & Time:	08/02/2013, 1143 PDT	Registration:	N4738E
Aircraft:	CHAMPION 7EC	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Runway excursion	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

During a practice landing, the pilot lost directional control on the landing roll and drifted towards the right. The pilot did not act in a timely manner to prevent the airplane from departing the runway surface and the airplane subsequently struck foliage and sustained substantial damage to the wing. The pilot reported no preimpact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain directional control during the landing roll.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion (Defining event) Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Flight Engineer	Age:	74
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Rear
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without Waivers/Limitations	Last Medical Exam:	03/28/2012
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	09/28/2012
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 17000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 150 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	CHAMPION	Registration:	N4738E
Model/Series:	7EC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	7EC-83
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1320 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	C90 SERIES
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	95 hp
Operator:	On file	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	DVO, 2 ft msl	Observation Time:	1135 PDT
Distance from Accident Site:	9 Nautical Miles	Condition of Light:	Day
Direction from Accident Site:	235°	Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Temperature/Dew Point:	21°C / 13°C
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots, 120°	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	29.97 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Sonoma, CA (0Q9)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Sonoma, CA (0Q9)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1143 PDT	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Sonoma Skypark (0Q9)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	20 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	08	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2480 ft / 40 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Touch and Go

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Albert P Nixon	Adopted Date:	12/19/2013
Additional Participating Persons:	Daniel Butler; FAA; Oakland, CA		
Publish Date:	12/19/2013		
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=87659		

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.

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