



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

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| Location: | The Dalles, OR | Accident Number: | WPR16FA154 |
| Date & Time: | 08/01/2016, 1100 PDT | Registration: | N528HZ |
| Aircraft: | SPERLING RICHARD G LANCAIR 360 | Injuries: | 1 Fatal |
| Flight Conducted Under: | Part 91: General Aviation - Personal | | |

On August 1, 2016, about 1100 Pacific daylight time, a Lancair 360, N528HZ, was destroyed after it impacted terrain while landing at Columbia Gorge Regional/The Dalles Municipal Airport (DLS), The Dalles, Oregon. The pilot, the sole occupant, was fatally injured. The airplane was registered to and operated by the pilot under the provisions of Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the flight, and no flight plan was filed. The local flight originated from DLS at about 1030.

Moments before the impact, a witness observed the airplane in a nose-low attitude with the right wing pointed up and the left wing pointed directly towards the ground. A second later, the airplane impacted the terrain. A witness and another person tended to the pilot where they waited for the emergency medical services. The pilot was then transported to the hospital where he succumbed to his injuries approximately an hour and a half later.

The airplane was recovered to a secure location for further examination.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

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| Aircraft Manufacturer: | SPERLING RICHARD G | Registration: | N528HZ |
| Model/Series: | LANCAIR 360 NO SERIES | Aircraft Category: | Airplane |
| Amateur Built: | Yes | | |
| Operator: | SPERLING RICHARD G | Air Carrier Operating Certificate: | None |

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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|----------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | KDLS, 210 ft msl | Observation Time: | 0953 PDT |
| Lowest Cloud Condition: | Clear | Conditions at Accident Site: | Visual Conditions |
| Lowest Ceiling: | None | Temperature/Dew Point: | 21°C / 11°C |
| Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction: | 10 knots, 340° | Visibility | 10 Miles |
| Altimeter Setting: | 30.02 inches Hg | Type of Flight Plan Filed: | None |
| Departure Point: | The Dalles, OR (DLS) | Destination: | The Dalles, OR (DLS) |

Wreckage and Impact Information

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|---------------------|---------|---------------------|-----------|
| Crew Injuries: | 1 Fatal | Aircraft Damage: | Destroyed |
| Passenger Injuries: | N/A | Aircraft Fire: | None |
| Ground Injuries: | N/A | Aircraft Explosion: | None |
| Total Injuries: | 1 Fatal | | |

Administrative Information

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| Investigator In Charge (IIC): | Maja Smith |
| Additional Participating Persons: | Ken Bradshaw; FSDO; Portland, OR |
| Note: | The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident. |