



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Diamond Point, NY	Accident Number:	GAA17CA307
Date & Time:	05/17/2017, 1705 EDT	Registration:	N4804F
Aircraft:	CESSNA U206	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	3 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Skydiving		

Analysis

The pilot reported that, during the takeoff roll, the airplane encountered a wind gust and veered left off the runway centerline. He added that the airplane became airborne but that he did not have "enough time" to avoid a parked helicopter. Subsequently, the left wing impacted the helicopter. He then reduced the engine power, and the airplane landed without further incident.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

The automated weather observation system about 5 nautical miles from the accident site reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was from 230° at 12 knots, gusting to 17 knots. The pilot was departing on runway 22.

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 takeoff roll with gusting wind conditions.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)
Environmental issues	Aircraft - Effect on operation Gusts - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Loss of control on ground (Defining event) Runway excursion Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	63, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	Lap Only
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	01/19/2017
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	03/15/2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 5230 hours (Total, all aircraft), 186 hours (Total, this make and model), 5085 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N4804F
Model/Series:	U206 A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1966	Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	U206-0504
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	04/13/2017, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3600 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2739.9 Hours as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	C91 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-A
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	285 hp
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KGFL, 333 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	5 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2053 UTC	Direction from Accident Site:	226°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	12 knots / 17 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	230°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.8 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	32°C / 12°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Diamond Point, NY (83K)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Diamond Point, NY (83K)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1702 EDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	HARRIS (83K)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	261 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	22	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2300 ft / 40 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	3 None	Latitude, Longitude:	43.410000, -73.532500 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Eric A Swenson	Report Date:	08/03/2017
Additional Participating Persons:	James Scott; FAA; Albany, NY		
Publish Date:	08/03/2017		
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=95250		

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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. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).