



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Chester, CT	Accident Number:	GAA19CA091
Date & Time:	12/10/2018, 1045 EST	Registration:	N143GW
Aircraft:	Zlin Z143	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that, during the initial engine start, he "cranked the engine several times," but the engine would not start. He then pumped the throttle about six times, and in a "split second," the engine surged to full rpm. He added that, despite fully applying the brakes, the airplane crossed over a ridge and went down an embankment. Subsequently, the airplane entered a parking lot, the left wing struck a lamp post, the airplane spun left, and it impacted another lamp post.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings, the fuselage, and the empennage.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident 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 loss of airplane control during the engine start.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)
Environmental issues	Pole - Effect on operation Sloped/uneven terrain - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Taxi-to runway	Miscellaneous/other
Standing-engine(s) start-up	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Taxi-to runway	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	78, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	05/13/2018
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	10/09/2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1099 hours (Total, all aircraft), 27 hours (Total, this make and model), 822 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Zlin	Registration:	N143GW
Model/Series:	Z143 L	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2001	Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	0039
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	03/07/2018, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2970 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	977 Hours at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	C91 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-540-J3A5
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	235 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:	KSNC, 417 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1055 UTC	Direction from Accident Site:	305°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	350°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.06 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-4° C / -9° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Chester, CT (SNC)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Unknown
Destination:	Fishers Island, NY (0B8)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	EST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	CHESTER (SNC)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	416 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	N/A	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	None

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
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	41.383333, -72.504722 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Eric A Swenson	Report Date:	09/26/2019
Additional Participating Persons:	Ganesh Persaud; FAA; Enfield, CT		
Publish Date:	09/26/2019		
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=98750		

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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