



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

Location:	Deming, NM	Accident Number:	WPR19LA101
Date & Time:	03/23/2019, 1130 MDT	Registration:	N254PM
Aircraft:	DENNIS I ZUMBALT SKY BOLT	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On March 23, 2019, about 1130 mountain daylight time, N254PM, a Sky Bolt experimental amateur-built airplane, was substantially damaged during a forced landing after experiencing a loss of engine power about 5 nautical miles west of Deming, New Mexico. The airplane was registered to and operated by a commercial pilot, who was seriously injured during the accident. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the proposed local flight, which was being operated in accordance with Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91, and no flight plan was filed. The flight was originating at the time of the accident.

In a telephone interview with the National Transportation Safety Board investigator-in-charge, the pilot reported that during takeoff/initial climb, the engine completely quit without warning. He then began a turn to the left to return to the airport, however, with insufficient altitude to make it back to the airstrip, he turned back to the right and made a forced landing to an open area. The airplane, which was substantially damaged during the landing sequence, will be recovered to a secured location for future examination.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	DENNIS I ZUMBALT	Registration:	N254PM
Model/Series:	SKY BOLT	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:	Yes		
Operator:	Anthony M Moretti	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KDMN, 4314 ft msl	Observation Time:	1153 MDT
Distance from Accident Site:		Temperature/Dew Point:	16 °C / -5 °C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots / , 230°
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility:	10 Miles
Altimeter Setting:	30.14 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Departure Point:	Deming, NM (na)	Destination:	Deming, NM (na)

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
Total Injuries:	1 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Thomas Little
Additional Participating Persons:	Steve Poiani; Federal Aviation Administration; Albuquerque, NM
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.