



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Hawthorne, CA	Accident Number:	WPR20CA064
Date & Time:	01/13/2020, 1230 PST	Registration:	N805M
Aircraft:	AIRBORNE XT912	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Hard landing	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The solo student pilot reported that, while on approach for landing, the airplane encountered a crosswind gust near the ground. The pilot attempted to abort the landing; however, he could not arrest the descent, and the airplane touched down hard on the runway. The airplane briefly became airborne and then hit the runway hard again, which resulted in the left rear wheel separating from the airplane. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the airframe. The student 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 student pilot's failure to arrest the airplane's descent rate, which resulted in a hard landing.

Findings

Aircraft	Descent rate - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Student pilot (Cause)

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Hard landing (Defining event) Part(s) separation from AC
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	33, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Sport Pilot	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 18 hours (Total, all aircraft), 18 hours (Total, this make and model), 3 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	AIRBORNE	Registration:	N805M
Model/Series:	XT912 L	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2008	Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Special Light-Sport	Serial Number:	XT-912-0284
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	03/24/2019, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	992 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	313 Hours as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	912
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	80 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:	HHR	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	1153 PST	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	Calm /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.12 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	16° C / 6° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Hawthorne, CA (HHR)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	Hawthorne, CA (HHR)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	1215 PST	Type of Airspace:	Air Traffic Control; Class D

Airport Information

Airport:	JACK NORTHROP FIELD/HAWTHORNE (HHR)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	65 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	25	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4884 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Stop and Go; Traffic Pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	33.923333, -118.337500 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Maja Smith	Report Date:	06/16/2020
Additional Participating Persons:			
Publish Date:	06/16/2020		
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=100813		

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.

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](#).