



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

Location:	Brandon, MN	Accident Number:	CEN20LA343
Date & Time:	08/15/2020, 1307 CDT	Registration:	N2510H
Aircraft:	Piper PA18	Injuries:	2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On August 15, 2020, about 1307 central daylight time, a Piper PA18, N2510H, was destroyed when it was involved in an accident near Brandon, Minnesota. The airline transport pilot and 1 passenger sustained minor injuries. The airplane was being operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 91 personal flight.

According to the pilot, he was taking off to the north from his private grass runway. The engine lost power shortly after the airplane became airborne. He contemplated landing on the remaining runway as he thought that the engine regained normal power. Due to the length of runway, he elected to continue the takeoff, but because of the obstacles at the departure end of the runway, he turned the airplane to the east towards a cut wheat field. While maneuvering toward the field, the landing gear struck a steel post attached to a fence in the field. The airplane came to rest upright in the field. After the occupants exited, a post crash fire consumed the airplane.



Figure 1. Airplane Wreckage after Post Crash Fire.

Examination of the accident site revealed that the airplane struck the steel post about 4-ft above the ground. The airplane came to rest about 150 ft from the impact with the post. Evidence at the site showed that the airplane rotated about 90° to the right before it struck the ground. Although a post impact fire consumed most of the airplane, all flight control continuities were confirmed. Due to the extensive fire damage, the engine could not be rotated and a detailed examination was not possible.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N2510H
Model/Series:	PA18 150	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:	No		
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:	AXN, 1411 ft msl	Observation Time:	1353 CDT
Distance from Accident Site:	7 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	23° C / 16° C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots / , 200°
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility:	10 Miles
Altimeter Setting:	30.04 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Departure Point:	Brandon, MN	Destination:	Brandon, MN

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	45.965278, -95.598611 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Alexander Lemishko
Additional Participating Persons:	Ed Martin; FAA FSDO; Minneapolis, MN
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.