



Injuries:

# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

**Location:** Hallsville, Missouri

**Date & Time:** September 13, 2017, 17:17 Local

Aircraft: Cessna 210G

**Defining Event:** Loss of engine power (total)

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Accident Number: CEN17LA352

**Registration:** N5906F

Aircraft Damage: Substantial

1 None

## **Analysis**

The private pilot reported that, while in cruise flight, a total loss of engine power occurred. After unsuccessful attempts to restart the engine, he landed the airplane gear up in a cornfield, which resulted in substantial damage to the fuselage. Postaccident examination of the airplane revealed that the engine mixture control cable had fractured about 9 inches from its attachment point at the engine. A metallurgical examination of the mixture control cable with a scanning electron microscope revealed fracture surface features that were consistent with a fatigue failure. It is likely that the engine mixture control cable fractured in flight, which led to a total loss of engine power.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The total loss of engine power due to a fatigue failure of the engine mixture control cable.

#### **Findings**

Aircraft (general) - Fatigue/wear/corrosion

#### **Factual Information**

#### **History of Flight**

**Enroute-cruise** Loss of engine power (total) (Defining event)

Emergency descentOff-field or emergency landingLandingLanding gear not configured

**Landing** Hard landing

On September 13, 2017, about 1717 central daylight time, a Cessna 210G airplane, N5906F, was substantially damaged during a forced landing following a loss of engine power near Hallsville, Missouri. The private pilot was not injured. The airplane was registered to and operated by AWG Aviation LLC under the provisions of Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 as a personal flight. Day visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the flight, which departed without a flight plan from Columbia Regional Airport (COU), Columbia, Missouri, about 1704, with a destination of Washington Municipal Airport (AWG), Washington, Iowa.

According to the pilot, after climbing to 3,500 ft above mean sea level, he leaned the engine's mixture. While in cruise flight, he observed a total loss of engine power and the propeller continuing to windmill. After unsuccessful attempts to restart the engine, the pilot landed, gear up, in a cornfield, damaging the fuselage.

Postaccident examination of the airplane by a Federal Aviation Administration inspector revealed the engine mixture control cable had fractured about nine inches from its attachment point at the engine. The cable was sent to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Materials Laboratory for further examination.

Digital microscope images of the wire strands indicated the fracture surfaces were flat and perpendicular to the axes of the strands. No necking or thinning of the individual strands consistent with overstress separation was observed.

Several wires were sectioned examined using a Zeiss Auriga 40 field emission scanning electron microscope (SEM). Post separation impact damage was observed around the outer circumference of the fracture surface. Feathery features consistent with fatigue were observed on the fracture surface. The full NTSB Materials Laboratory report is available in the official docket of this investigation.

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#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Private	Age:	38,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Lap only
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 24, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 1, 2017
Flight Time:	95 hours (Total, all aircraft), 40 hours (Total, this make and model), 60 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 38 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N5906F
Model/Series:	210G	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1967	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	21058906
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	December 2, 2016 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3395 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	58 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3737 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	IO 520 SERIES
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	285 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

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## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	COU,778 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	15 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:54 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	231°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	330°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.75 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	29°C / 8°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipit	ation	
Departure Point:	Columbia, MO (COU)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	WASHINGTON, IA (AWG)	Type of Clearance:	VFR flight following
Departure Time:	17:04 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class E

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	39.123054,-92.118057(est)

### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Folkerts, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	Rod McLaughlin; Flight Standards District Office; Kansas City, MO Chris Lang; Continental Motors; Mobile, AL
Original Publish Date:	April 8, 2019
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=96014

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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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