



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Fort Worth, Texas	Accident Number:	GAA19CA200
Date & Time:	April 4, 2019, 18:10 Local	Registration:	N801R
Aircraft:	Zenair ZENITH CH 801	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	3 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that, while on short final, about 50 ft above ground level, the airplane rolled about 30° to the left. He applied full right aileron and leveled the airplane about 2 ft above ground level, but the airplane descended onto the runway, exited the runway to the left, and impacted terrain. The airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings and the fuselage. 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 failure to maintain lateral control in flight and his subsequent loss of directional control during landing with a crosswind, which resulted in a runway excursion and impact with terrain.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Aircraft	Lateral/bank control - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	Crosswind - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing	Runway excursion
Landing	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Private	Age:	67, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 6, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 27, 2015
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 729 hours (Total, all aircraft), 445 hours (Total, this make and model), 686 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Zenair	Registration:	N801R
Model/Series:	ZENITH CH 801 No Series	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2005	Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	8-4296
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	December 31, 2018 Condition	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2250 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	445 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Superior
ELT:	C91A installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	XP-0-360-A1A2
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KAFW,685 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	5 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	22:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	62°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 5500 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	16 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	50°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.9 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	26°C / 17°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Fort Worth, TX (T67)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Fort Worth, TX (T67)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	HICKS AIRFIELD T67	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	855 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	32	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3740 ft / 60 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	3 None	Latitude, Longitude:	32.93111,-97.411666(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Nepomuceno, Eleazar
Additional Participating Persons:	Robert Bennett; FAA; Irving, TX
Original Publish Date:	April 13, 2020
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=99230

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](#).