

# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: Lewiston, Idaho Accident Number: WPR18LA175

Date & Time: May 29, 2018, 09:00 Local Registration: N7546K

Aircraft: Cessna P210N Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** Abnormal runway contact **Injuries:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

#### **Analysis**

After climbing to cruise altitude, the pilot noted that the landing gear position indicator lights showed that the landing gear were not retracted, and the pilot was unable to fully extend or retract the gear. He declared an emergency and landed with the landing gear retracted, resulting in substantial damage to the horizontal stabilizer.

Examination revealed that the rigid hydraulic line connecting the hydraulic powerpack to the bulkhead had failed at the ferrule. A review of maintenance records revealed that this line had recently been duplicated and replaced due to a failure in the same area. The reason for the failure was not determined based on the available evidence.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

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

The failure of a hydraulic line in the landing gear system, which resulted in the pilot's inability to lower the gear and a subsequent gear-up landing.

### **Findings**

Aircraft	Main landing gear - Failure
Aircraft	Gear extension and retract sys - Failure

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#### **Factual Information**

#### **History of Flight**

**Enroute-cruise** Sys/Comp malf/fail (non-power)

Landing-flare/touchdown Abnormal runway contact (Defining event)

On May 29, 2018 about 0900 Pacific daylight time, a Cessna P210, N7546K, was substantially damaged when it was involved in an accident near Lewiston, Idaho. The private pilot, the sole occupant, was not injured. The airplane was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 personal flight.

The pilot reported that, following departure, he climbed to his planned enroute altitude of 7,500 ft mean sea level. He noticed that the airspeed was lower than expected and then saw that the landing gear position indicator light showed that the gear was not retracted. The pilot cycled the gear but was unable to fully extend or retract them. He then attempted to manually lower the landing gear with the emergency hand pump but was unsuccessful. He declared an emergency and subsequently landed with the gear retracted, resulting in substantial damage to the horizontal stabilizer spar.

Examination revealed that the rigid hydraulic line connecting the powerpack to the bulkhead had failed at the ferrule. A review of the airplane's maintenance records revealed that, on March 13, 2018, at a tachometer time of 384 hours, a maintenance facility completed a check of the landing gear. A subsequent entry, dated May 17, 2018, and about 8.6 flight hours after the previous maintenance, stated, "Landing gear inop for up/dn. Pilot report did pump gear down." The entry indicated that personnel performed troubleshooting on the source of a hydraulic fluid leak, which they determined to be at the hydraulic power pack gear system. The entry stated that the tube fitting line cracked at the flare below the ferrule, and a new line of aluminum tubing the same size and length as the failed tubing was fabricated and installed.

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#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Private	Age:	65,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	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:	December 9, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	No Last Flight Review or Equivalent:		
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 3000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1385 hours (Total, this make and model), 3000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 450 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

## **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N7546K
Model/Series:	P210N	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1979	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	P21000407
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	4000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6450 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	TSIO-520
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	
Operator:	On file	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:	KLWS,1436 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	15:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	66°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.97 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	18°C / 8°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipit	ation	
Departure Point:	Joseph, OR (JSY )	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Lewiston, ID (LWS)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	08:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class E

## **Airport Information**

Airport:	LEWISTON-NEZ PERCE COUNTY LWS	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1441 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	30	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5002 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

## 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:	46.373332,-117.021385(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Keliher, Zoe

Additional Participating Persons: Kevin Marsac; Federal Aviation Administration; Spokane, WA

Original Publish Date: May 25, 2021 Investigation Class: 3

**Note:** The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.

Investigation Docket: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97547

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 <a href="here">here</a>.

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