



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Valparaiso, Indiana	Accident Number:	GAA17CA153
Date & Time:	February 20, 2017, 09:40 Local	Registration:	N9277K
Aircraft:	Stinson 108	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, during landing, as the tail came down, a "sizable gust weathervaned" the airplane to the left. He added that, he "made aggressive inputs to correct the direction" but was unsuccessful. He further added that, once the airplane veered off the runway and into the grass, he could feel the mains begin to sink into the soft ground. Subsequently, the airplane nosed over.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the right wing lift struts and empennage.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

A review of recorded data from the automated weather observation station located on the airport revealed that, about 16 minutes after the accident, the wind was from 170° at 9 knots. The airplane landed on runway 18.

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 directional control while landing with a crosswind.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Soft surface - Effect on equipment

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing	Runway excursion
Landing	Nose over/nose down

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	54,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-point
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 20, 2016
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 4, 2015
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 330 hours (Total, all aircraft), 296 hours (Total, this make and model), 241 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Stinson	Registration:	N9277K
Model/Series:	108 2	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1947	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	108-2277
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2230 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	FRANKLIN
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	6A4165 SERIES
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	165 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:	KVPZ,770 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	15:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	152°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	5 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	170°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.17 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	14°C / 9°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	Moderate - None - Haze		
Departure Point:	Private, IN	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Valparaiso, IN (VPZ)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	09:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	PORTER COUNTY RGNL VPZ	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	770 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	18	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4001 ft / 75 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:	41.454723,-87.007225(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Vanover, Jackie
Additional Participating Persons:	Dwayne Hudson; FAA; Des Plaines, IL
Original Publish Date:	July 20, 2017
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=94759

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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](#).