



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Noreen Price
Aviation Accident Investigator
Alaska Regional Office

Date: July 2, 2018
Persons Contacted: John Tomsic
NTSB Accident Number: ANC18CA052, N5020D

Narrative:

Mr. Tomsic was a witness to the accident and a mechanic who was helping the pilot on the day of the Cessna 182 accident at Birchwood Airport. He was interviewed via phone and below is a summary of his statements:

- Mr. Tomsic has been an acquaintance of the pilot for about four years. He performed an annual inspection on the pilot's previous airplane. Mr. Tomsic is an airframe and power plant mechanic and has inspection authorization.
- He was at the airport when the pilot pulled into the fueling area and filled up. The airplane tires were very low, and he assisted with filling them. He noted that a lot of fuel was leaking from the right wing quick drain area. He got a bucket and helped moved the airplane to the gravel area.
- The pilot seemed very intent on flying the airplane to Homer that day. She seemed to be rushing after not flying the airplane for a long time.
- The pilot said that the airplane had an airspeed problem, so he suggested that she conduct a high-speed taxi to test it. He was surprised to see that she conducted the test on the taxiway vice the runway and thought that she was taking it too fast and far. She conducted the second high-speed taxi test on the runway and he observed the airplane porpoising and then becoming airborne.
- Mr. Tomsic observed the airplane flying a very long downwind. Once on final, the airplane descended very rapidly in a flat attitude to the ground. The propeller was turning very slowly, (300-400 rpm) and it appeared that the engine wasn't making power. He saw the airplane hit the gravel area short of runway 20R very hard.

- He drove over to the accident site to assist the pilot. Mr. Tomsic noted that the propeller, mixture and throttle were all out fully. When he asked the pilot why, she said that she didn't know, and she was very distracted during the flight.
- He assisted in moving the airplane back to the parking spot.

The end.