



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Investigator name: Shaun Williams
Title: Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
Region: Alaska

Date: 06 June 2018
Person Contacted: Michael Schmieding
NTSB Accident Number: ANC18FA041

Narrative:

On June 3, 2018, about 1900 Pacific daylight time, a Mason Hal J KitFox Model 1, experimental light sport airplane, N375KF, sustained substantial damage during an impact with Fir trees near Blue Skies Airport (OR87), Salem, Oregon. The wreckage of the airplane was discovered June 4, 2018.

Mr. Schmieding, spoke with the pilot prior to the accident and stated the following to the NTSB Investigator-in-Charge:

On June 1, 2018 he saw the Mr. Newton at OR87 with N375KF. Mr. Newton had installed new suspension on the aircraft and was conducting taxi tests. He only made 1 or 2 trips on the runway before loading the airplane back on the trailer to make adjustments to the pressure in the struts.

Mr. Newton returned on June 3 between 1630 and 1700 with the airplane again on a trailer. After offloading the airplane, he conducted about 20 taxi passes along the runway. Mr. Schmieding spoke with him for about an hour before resuming work around his house. He estimated that Mr. Newton was taxiing for about 2 hours. When Mr. Schmieding returned, the airplane was gone but Mr. Newton's truck and trailer remained.

It wasn't until June 4th that he learned an accident had occurred.

END OF INTERVIEW