



RECORD OF CORRESPONDENCE

Mitchell Gallo
Aviation Accident Investigator
Central Region

Person Contacted: Richard Gordon; Baton Rouge FSDO
NTSB Accident Number: CEN15LA276

Narrative:

Richard Gordon stated that upon his arrival at the accident site, he saw that the prevailing winds were from north to south and an American Flag, near the accident site, that was standing straight out from the north wind. The Inspector asked the pilot, who was standing with his father, what he thought happened, and the first thing the pilot said was "The bleed valve failed while taking off!" The Inspector asked the pilot why he thought that was the case. The pilot stated that the engine bleed valve was changed 80 hours prior to the accident flight. The Inspector then asked the pilot why he took off downwind with 3,000 pounds of fertilizer and full fuel. The Inspector stated that at this point the pilot got a little upset, and made the statement that he "took off from the same airstrip that morning and had no problems, this is a PT6A turbine engine, I have plenty of power to make that take-off".

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