

INSPECTOR STATEMENT

On September 7, 2016 Safety Inspector McLaughlin conducted an investigation of Republic RC-3, N6490K after an accident where the pilot stated he lost engine power, but the engine was running. The aircraft has 25 gallons of fuel on board, flight controls all checked for positive control and found good, engine controls all check good, fuel supply to the engine good, ignition source good and spark at the spark plugs. Air inlet and induction system check good. Compression check performed with the following results – Cylinder #1- 20/80, 2- 20/80, 3 – 68/80, 4 – 58/80, 5 – 38/80, and 6 – 20/80. Number 1 cylinder exhaust valve was not seating, all compression air was exiting thru the exhaust port. The other cylinders were leaking compression air past the compression rings on the piston. The aircraft had sat for about 4 years and then put back into service. The engine cylinders had rust in them. The pilot stated he had about two hours on the aircraft after returning it to service when the accident occurred.

Rodwin L. McLaughlin
Aviation Safety Inspector