



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Mitchell Gallo
Aviation Accident Investigator
Central Region

Date: December 3, 2017
Person Contacted: Greg Brown, Carmi Municipal Airport Manager
NTSB Accident Number: CEN17FA046

Narrative:

During a telephone conversation, Greg Brown stated that the pilot had been his friend for a long time. The pilot bought N129LA as an incomplete built airplane, and the pilot finished building the airplane. He said that the pilot had a repairman certificate for the airplane. Mr. Brown said that the airplane was experimental and equipped with wing slats. He said that the pilot "loves explaining his airplane" and discussed the slats.

Mr. Brown said that the previous Sunday morning, the pilot returned from a flight and then worked on the engine. Mr. Brown said that the pilot told him that the airplane "is flying better than ever." The pilot said to Mr. Brown, "see these slats, I'm getting puzzled." The pilot said the right slat popped out on its own when he tapped them, and the left slat did not pop out when he tapped them. Mr. Brown said that if both slats did not deploy in flight, then the wreckage would be inverted. Mr. Brown said that the slats deploy at 60 mph.

Mr. Brown said that the pilot departed on the day of the accident about 1150 local time from Carmi Municipal Airport and had been flying for about 1:15 hours.

Mr. Brown stated that the pilot flew the airplane "almost every single day" and that the airplane airframe and engine logbooks were in the pilot's desk. The airplane could land in 40 feet and in a 30 mph crosswind.

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