

From: David.R.Nelson
Sent: November 22, 2016 5:31 AM
To: Jordan Paskevich
Cc: Arnold, Scott; Allan Thilmany; Michael Crudden; Darryl J. Anderson
Subject: Rotax 912ULS-N8681 Zenith CH-750

Jordan,

When the pilot was interviewed, he stated he had trouble re-starting the engine because he had the throttle advanced. According to his statement, the Rotax 912 engine has a safety feature that does not allow it to start if the throttle is not at idle.

David Nelson
Aviation Safety Inspector
Accident Investigation

From: Jordan Paskevich
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2016 10:34 AM
To: David R. Nelson
Cc: Arnold Scott; Thilmany, Allan; Crudden, Michael; Anderson, Darryl J.
Subject: RE: Rotax 912ULS-N8681 Zenith CH-750

David

The engine "can start" at any throttle position as there is no "safety feature" that will prevent you from doing so. Starting the engine at full throttle is not recommended as it could damage the engine (especially a cold engine).

- Proper starting procedure on a "cold engine" is throttle at idle position, and Full Choke
- Proper starting procedure on a "warm engine" is throttle at idle position and No Choke.

It is true that the pilot may have had "Trouble re-starting" the engine because of an advanced throttle position, as it can be more difficult to start the engine in this situation. With an advanced throttle position on start-up, the butterfly within the carburetors are open allowing more air (too much air) into the engine and not enough fuel, until the engine creates enough vacuum to suck the fuel from the carburetor float bowl and into the engine.

To answer your question:

- Yes, the engine can be difficult to start (Re-start) with an advanced throttle position.
- No, this is not a "safety-feature" built into the engine or carburetors.

Best Regards
Jordan Paskevich
Rotech Flight Safety
Rotax Aircraft Engines