



MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Accident Number: CEN18FA262
Location: Moriarty, New Mexico
Date: July 12, 2018

Subject: Interview with Mr. Bob Hudson, Manager, Moriarty Municipal Airport, Moriarty, New Mexico, regarding the crash of a Schempp-Hirth Ventus 3F motorized glider on July 10, 2018

Mr. Hudson said that the pilot, Mr. Renard Rozzoni, took off from Moriarty Airport a little after 1:00 pm. The glider was towed and released. He said that a little after 5:00 pm, Joan Rozzoni, the pilot's wife called the airport looking for him. His flight tracker showed his position south of the airport. Mr. Hudson figured he might have been maneuvering to enter the traffic pattern and put down in a field there. That's where they started looking for him. Several of the tow plane pilots took off to search for him. A short time later, the glider was found in a field southeast of the airport. Mr. Hudson said Mr. Rozzoni had a FLARM (Flight Alarm) digital flight warning system on board the glider. It acted like a TCAS for gliders. He said that it has an SD card in the unit that would have exact flight times on it.

Mr. Hudson said that Mr. Rozzoni purchased the glider, a Schempp-Hirth Ventus 3F earlier in the year. He said he made his first flight in it, in March. During a flight in March, the pilot had some controllability issues with the glider and put the glider down in a field off airport. He said there was some discussion about a weight and balance issue and that the glider may have had a more aft C.G. (Center of Gravity), but that it was within limits. He said that Mr. Rozzoni was a conscientious and conservative pilot. He said that Mr. Rozzoni was experienced having about 1,200 hours in gliders, but that this was a new glider and that it may have been only one of three gliders of that model flying in the United States.

Mr. Hudson said Mr. Rozzoni was retired from the oil business. He said before that, Mr. Rozzoni was an officer in the U. S. Army. He was a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Taken by,

Dr. David Bowling
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