

Memorandum of Conversation

Date: May 22, 2018

Time: 1300 central daylight time

Conversation Including: Robert A Wiemuth, Jr. (Pilot)

Conversation Regarding: CEN18LA181, N667AZ

Duration of Conversation: 15 Minutes



Summary & Factual Information from Conversation:

NTSB Investigator Fox spoke with Mr. Wiemuth who was the pilot of the Vans RV7A airplane that crashed on the evening of May 18, 2018, near Hanover Park, Illinois.

Mr. Wiemuth stated that he completed a normal preflight inspection that revealed no anomalies with the airplane or its engine. He noted that both wing fuel tanks were completely full before the flight (42 gallons total). He stated that he did not observe any contamination in the fuel samples that he obtained from each wing tank during his preflight. He noted that there were only two fuel sumps, one located under each wing. The airplane was not equipped with a drainable fuel filter assembly.

Mr. Wiemuth reported that the engine started without hesitation and that there were no anomalies during his before-takeoff engine runup. He made a normal takeoff from runway 11 before he entered a left downwind departure from the traffic pattern. Mr. Wiemuth reported that as the flight climbed through 1,600 ft mean sea level, the engine began to run rough and one of the cylinders had an elevated exhaust gas temperature. He turned on the fuel boost pump, switched fuel tanks, and ensured that the throttle, mixture, and propeller controls were full forward. The engine operation did not improve despite his corrective actions and the airplane was unable to maintain altitude. Mr. Wiemuth initially began a turn back toward the airport, but he ultimately decided to maneuver toward a nearby vacant field to remain clear of a densely populated area. The airplane nosed over upon touchdown in the soft field. Mr. Wiemuth was able to exit the airplane with minor injuries.

--- End of interview summary ---

I can attest that the above summary and factual information was taken on the above stated day, and is correct to the best of my knowledge:

Signed: _ Andrew Todd Fox _

Dated: _ May 22, 2018 _

Andrew Todd Fox
National Transportation Safety Board
Air Safety Investigator