



Memo for Record

Craig Hatch
Air Safety Investigator
Central Region

Person Contacted: Christina Grabill, Brian Lundquist; FAA, Des Moines Flight Standards District Office
NTSB Accident Number: CEN20LA014

During conversations with the FAA Inspectors, the following points were made:

The pilot reported to the FAA inspector(s):

- He was on a solo flight leg from Mason City, IA to Ft. Dodge, IA when the oil pressure went to zero. oil temperature didn't seem too high, so he stated he turned towards Esterville, IA.
- When he checked or added oil to the engine, He'd place the oil dipstick in the wing's tie down loop.
- Mr. Gent landed just short of a road running east-west. The right main gear departed the aircraft, a he contacted the road. The aircraft came to rest in a ditch.
- The FAA found substantial damage to the airplane; the engine oil dipstick was found 2-3 ft in front of the airplane. A review of photos of the airplane on-site, noted oil on the exterior of the engine cowl.

Examination of the airplane was done under the supervision of the FAA.

- All 4 cylinders were inspected via borescope. Scoring was found on no. 2 and no. 4 cylinder walls, consistent with inadequate lubrication. (oil starvation)
- The oil filter was removed and cut open. Found ferrous and non-ferrous metal in the pleats consistent with failures resulting from inadequate lubrication.
- Firewall and right side of fuselage covered with engine oil.