



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Office of Aviation Safety
Washington, D.C. 20594

January 23, 2023

Attachment 2. Firefighter Narrative

SURVIVAL FACTORS

CEN21FA345

Interview: Firefighter Holzhauer
(Fire Captain and Paramedic, Hartford Fire Department)
Date: November 2, 2022 1304 CST
Location: Phone
Present: Amanda Taylor (NTSB)

During the call the Firefighter Holzhauer stated the following:

Firefighter/ Paramedic Holzhauer he was the lead firefighter on the scene of the accident. His team was first on scene and were able to use a farm road to drive into the accident site staging approximately 100 feet from the aircraft. Hartford Fire and Rescue Department responded to the scene with the fire engine, two ambulances and a suburban.

When he arrived, the airplane appeared intact, with the left side wing exhibiting damage. They noted upper torso trauma to the front seat pilot, and they tried to get an airway into the front seat pilot. The rear seat pilot was in better shape, so they decided to extricate him first to gain access to the front occupant. It was hard to access the occupants therefore, they made cuts along the right side of the airplane just aft of the engine and pulled the structure downward (see figure 1).

In order to pull him out of the airplane they had to bend the rear control stick down and away. They were then able to slide him out and onto a long board for transport via ambulance. While pulling him out the seat back was bent up, and seat pan sideways. After they pulled him out, they were able to access the front seat pilot, she still had a pulse during extrication.

The rear seat pilot was transported via ambulance to Aurora Medical Center, Washington County during the trip the rear seat pilot woke up and communicated with first responders. He was later transported via Flight for Life to Froedtert Hospital in Wauwatosa which is a level 1 trauma center.

The front seat pilot was then extricated, her feet were pinned under the instrument panel. The pilots were flying into the Hartford Airport which also had an Air Methods medical helicopter stationed there. Prior to responding directly to the scene, the SUV picked up the medical staff from the Air Methods hangar and brought them to the scene to assist with patient care. After stabilizing the front seat pilot, the patient and the air medical helicopter team was then transported by a Hartford Fire Department ambulance to the hangar where the helicopter then transported her to Aurora Summit Health which is a level 2 trauma center.

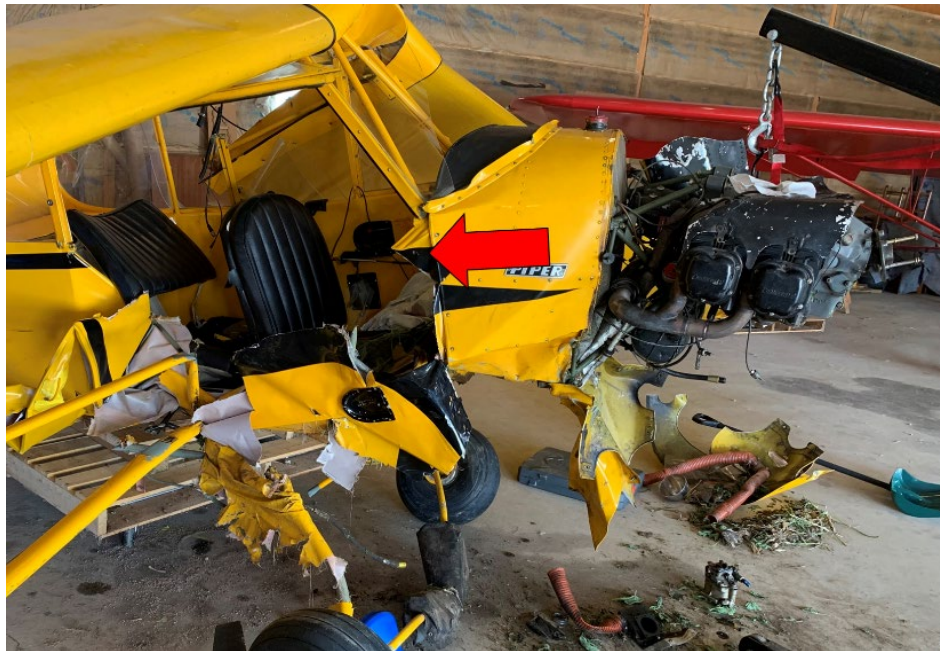


Figure 1. Aircraft at salvage facility with red arrow showing where the cuts were made on the right side.



Figure 2. Google earth map of the Hartford Airport and approximate wreckage location, and EMS staging area.