



Brian Rutt
Air Safety Investigator
Central Region

Date: December 1, 2023

Subject: CEN23LA386

Contact: Gary Watson - North Texas FSDO

Mr. Watson spoke with two witnesses regarding the accident involving N57AR. The witnesses stated that the pilot started the takeoff roll with the rotor in a horizontal position. The witnesses both stated the takeoff roll was much longer than usual, and when the pilot pitched the rotor up, the gyroplane pitched up, gained about 30 to 40 ft above the ground, rolled to the left, and impacted the runway. The left main wheel was broken off at the strut mount. The gyroplane continued to roll to the left and the rotors contacted the ground. The fuselage departed the runway on its left side and the aircraft came to rest 1400 feet from the departure point of the runway.

Mr. Watson reported that the pilot had 30 hours in gyroplanes and 260 hours in fixed wing airplanes.

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