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Office of Aviation Safety

Date: December 26, 2023
Subject: CEN23LA426 - FAA Inspector Statement
Contact: Don Dutra - Aviation Safety Inspector

The following statement was received via email from Inspector Dutra:

In a nut shell, based on the very brief conversation I had with the PIC (no written statement), his feet supposedly tangled up in the heel brakes of the Luscombe.

After hitting the brakes hard, the aircraft began to veer left of center. The pilot tried to correct by applying throttle and attempting a go around, but failed to recognize that his aircraft speed was too low to get a response from the rudder. He said he applied full right rudder but the aircraft did not respond. The aircraft bounced. With no rudder authority and full throttle applied, it became airborne and struck a hangar.

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