



Aaron Sauer
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Office of Aviation Safety - Central Region

Date: 01/18/24

Subject: CEN24LA081

Contact: Mechanic - Mr. Barry Bond

According to Mr. Bond, who is a company mechanic, the airplane was received at his facility following recovery from the Beaumont Airport. Mr. Bond examined and removed all the components of the main landing gear. All bent components and fractures were consistent with a ground loop event; none of the fractures displayed signatures of preexisting cracks or issues. Mr. Bond stated that another company airplane of the same make and model experienced a ground loop a number of years ago and the damage signatures are identical to that event. Mr. Bond stated that he reviewed the weather after he was told of the accident and the crosswind conditions were gusting to 17 knots which convinced him that the airplane experienced an abnormal sideload and ground loop during the landing.

--END OF CONVERSATION--

Aaron Sauer

My observations of N71MS post arrival to TAF Aerial Services LLC facility located at BEA.

Landing Gear

Right main gear was removed from fuselage for transport, bolts were intact and mounting brackets on fuselage and landing gear were also intact.

Oleo strut was still attached to landing gear and bent inward, top cap on oleo was broken from strut but still attached to fuselage.

Axle with tire, wheel and brake were broken from landing gear vee at lower tube cluster tire still had air pressure and turned freely on axle.

Right wing

Wing was bent upward and wrinkled; fiberglass wing tip had numerous fractures. Lift struts were both buckled.

Propeller

Blades were bent forward at tips and loose in hub.

Left wing

Dent in leading edge and tie down ring broken off.

Was told by pilot that the aircraft was dragged on to a flatbed car wrecker to move it off the runway.

Conclusion

Some damage could have been caused by the expedited handling of the aircraft to remove it off the runway. Damage to right wing and right landing gear all appear to have had a larger side load than aircraft was designed to sustain.

Barry Bond