

Engine runup report post-accident AGL1324039
N32435
East Troy, WI (57C)
Inspector Michael J. Pieczynski MKE FSDO

September 17, 2024, at 1730 hrs. a post-accident engine run was conducted to support the accident investigation of N32435.

On site was the aircraft owner and inspector Pieczynski from the MKE FSDO. After the owner secured the aircraft and installed the battery, a prestart safety inspection was conducted. The propeller blades were bent symmetrically backwards chordwise from the tips to midway to the hub because of the accident.

The initial start was unsuccessful due to a failed start solenoid. The owner was able to correct the problem. During this time, it was discovered the mechanical fuel pump suction line was loose and nearly fallen off. The suction line was resecured. The engine started with ease on the second start and was shaking due to the imbalance of the damaged propeller. Once the engine stabilized after warming up, the owner moved the throttles forward and increased the RPM for a moment. The engine appeared to operate normal.

It is this inspector's opinion that a contributing factor to the loss of power prior to the accident was the mechanical fuel pump fuel line was not completely secured. The records do show the owner (also an A&P IA) installed a new fuel pump prior to the day of the accident. After a discussion with the owner, he had stated he had the fuel pump off and on more than once because he was not sure if the pump was properly installed and that he may have forgot to torque the fuel line fitting to the pump.

End

