



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

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Eastern Region

Date: July 16, 2015
Person Contacted: Allan Krausz (Pilot in Command)
NTSB Accident Number: ERA15CA264

Narrative:

The following is a summary of the conversation with the pilot in command:

Mr. Allan Krausz stated that on July 10, 2015 he was flying from South Alabama Regional Airport to Green Cove Spring, Florida to get an annual inspection.

During the flight, he ran into thunderstorms that forced him to alter his course. He was originally planning on landing before dusk, but the deviation added 45 minutes to his flight.

Due to the night conditions, he elected to divert to Palatka because it had a long paved and lighted runway.

As he approached the airport, he heard traffic and asked if there was any traffic in the pattern.

The cruise speed of the Mustang is 175 kts; initial approach is 100 kts; transition to final is 90 kts and 70 kts over the threshold. It's also a hard airplane to slow down.

Pilot set up for the approach to runway 9, but he misjudged his speed so he elected to go around.

On the second approach, he was more stable, but he had a difficult time judging altitude as he got close to the runway. There is no landing light on the aircraft; he only had the runway lights for reference.

He came in with a high sink rate and landed hard bouncing 4 to 5 feet in the air. During the second bounce the pilot gave it full power, right rudder and tried to steer the aircraft out.

The aircraft veered left and rolled left wing low and struck the sod just to the left of the paved runway surface. It tumbled and the propeller and engine struck the ground severing it from the fuselage and the aircraft came to rest inverted.

He turned off all power and fuel. He stated he could smell the fuel coming out of the wing tanks.

He was unable to reach help because his phone had been thrown out of reach. He managed to break the Plexiglas sufficiently to create a hole big enough to climb out of. He was able to extricate himself after 30 minutes and walk to a pay phone. He was received minor injuries during his evacuation of the aircraft. Cuts caused by Plexiglas.

It had been a while since he flew at night. He was not planning for a night flight. There was no landing light on the aircraft. 15ca264