



RECORD OF INTERVIEW

Investigator: Brian C. Rayner
Senior Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region

Date: September 28, 2015
Person Interviewed: D. Haddock
NTSB Accident Number: ERA15LA374 Thomaston, Georgia

Narrative:

Mr. Haddock was the pilot/owner/operator of the accident helicopter. He was interviewed by telephone, and the following is a summary of the interview.

We were getting ready to spray with the helicopter. We were getting spray patterns and everything calibrated along with the GPS.

I was going to land on the right-of-way, and then decided to land on the truck to clean the windscreen.

I was making a right hand pedal turn to land on the truck and as I was descending and just as the helicopter was about to touchdown, the pin broke off in the left pedal. At that time, a dozen or more of the pieces and spacers went flying and I could hear them bouncing around inside the chin bubble. When the pin broke free, the left pedal went to the floor. The left skid went off the side of the truck, so I couldn't chop the throttle which is the procedure when you lose tail rotor control.

I had to pull pitch to avoid striking my coworkers, and I tried a couple of times to lower the collective and land on the truck but it couldn't be done. I repositioned away from the truck and closed the throttle, and lowered the collective to land but when I did I went from a right hand rotation to a left hand rotation as the blades hit the side of the mix truck.