



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Aaron McCarter
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region

Date: July 19, 2016
Person Contacted: Juan Sonen (Pilot)
NTSB Accident Number: ERA16CA259

Narrative:

After preflight and during the takeoff roll at about 30 to 35 knots, realized he forgot to turn on the anti collision lights.

He reached over to turn them on and must have hit the trim switch with his forearm. It's really sensitive.

It went to full nose up trim and only realized it when the airplane leapt off the runway at a steep angle. He shot up to 60 feet and started rolling and drifting to the left.

Tried to compensate with right rudder and aileron, but it kept rolling to the left. The trees were approaching fast. Attempted to climb over the trees and the airplane either stuck the trees or it stalled and spun into them.

Pilot only got a few bumps and bruises. The airplane was destroyed.

Reemphasized he inadvertently activated the nose up trim with his forearm. There were no mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane.