

Narrative of pilot phone interview

On 11/22/2015 at approximately 12:00 hrs EST N600VP took off from KISP NY in route to KALB NY. The flight was normal and routine with no mechanical irregularities. Upon approach to KALB runway 28 the pilot configured the aircraft for landing as routine with all three landing gear indications normal (3 green). The winds were a very slight crosswind but mostly directly down the runway in a headwind direction.

Upon touchdown the aircraft suffered a very unusual nose wheel shimmy. The pilot pulled back on the yoke to relieve weight off the nose gear based on prior experience with smaller Cessna aircraft. The aircraft lifted off again slightly and as the aircraft settled back down, the nose wheel shimmy once again developed. The pilot once again tried to remove the nose gear load but eventually had to set the aircraft down. The pilot reported at this point he was focused on keeping the aircraft on the centerline. Once the aircraft was on the ground the aircraft nose gear failed and both propellers contacted the ground.

The pilot could not determine how long the aircraft was on the ground before the failure but was positive he did not even have time to apply the brakes.

The pilot stated he is spares no expense with his aircraft and always addresses any maintenance item promptly. The pilot also stated he always performs an extensive preflight and did not notice any issue or he would never have taken off.

The pilot indicated he has approximately 800 total flight hrs, about 157 in model type and about 30 hrs in the last 90 days.