



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

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Date: 6/12/2018
Person Contacted: Michael Axelrad (Pilot in Command)
NTSB Accident Number: ERA18LA163

Narrative:

The following is a summary of a conversation that occurred with the individual named above:

- The pilot reported that he had about 3 years of experience flying the accident airplane. The airplane had an “automobile conversion” engine, manufactured by GM.
- He reported that during a previous flight in early May 2018, the engine “lost one piston,” and he was able to make an emergency landing at his home airport.
- He reported that over the past month, preceding the accident, he was “rebuilding the engine.” Specifically, he had replaced all the pistons on the engine.
- He reported that he was “a little negligent” in ground testing the engine prior to the accident flight.
- He reported that he took off (accident flight), turned crosswind, and about 800 ft mean sea level, the engine lost total power. He reported that he “wasn’t surprised” that the engine failed. He believed an engine failure was something that might occur on the flight.
- He reported that after the engine failed, he landed in a field and impacted trees and brush.