



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Heidi Kemner
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

May 8, 2018

Subject: ERA18LA144
Who: Derrick Harris – FAA Inspector

In a telephone conversation, Inspector Harris stated following:

- Pilot was a student pilot.
- The gyroplane owner is the instructor for the student pilot.
- The owner is based on that airport.
- The pilot is going to be having surgery.
- There was a witness, he was sitting at the hold short line and saw the accident airplane land, it was going a little too fast, and it started wobbling, and the pilot tried to make a quick left on the taxiway and the gyrocopter rolled over.
- Pilot wasn't wearing a helmet at the time of the accident.
- The main rotor blade was torn off and was thrown 350 feet from the main wreckage.
- 3 strikes of the advancing blade and retreating blade. Lifted airplane and twisted it around.
- He came and was trying to make the A2 taxiway. It was rolling forward and when he turned it rolled to the right.
- Everything was intact in the cockpit. The controls were examined and there was no binding in the controls.
- The mast had 3 twists in it. Only one tip on the prop was broken off.
- The witness reported that the gyrocopter was under power the whole time. The main rotor and engine were operating during the landing.
- Usually when gyrocopters land, they stop the main rotor blade.
- There was a 8ft tire drag. He went to the left and the blades turn to the right and it took him over.
- Airplane in the hangar on the airfield and locked up for now.