



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Adam Gerhardt
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Eastern Region, Office of Aviation Safety (ERA)
National Transportation Safety Board

Date: 7/12/2019
Person Contacted: Larry Mage, Jr. (Pilot in Command)
NTSB Accident Number: ERA19TA222

Narrative:

The following is a summary of what the individual named above reported:

- He reported that he purchased the airplane on July 1, 2019. The airplane had just completed an annual inspection as well.
- On the day of the accident, he departed with his Dad, who was also a pilot, and planned to complete a local flight.
- He reported there was "no wind."
- He completed 4 normal landings, and during the 5th landing of the flight on runway 28, about 9:15AM - 9:30AM local time, he was completing a wheel landing.
- The main landing gear touched down about 55-60mph and during the landing rollout, the tail settled to the runway about 30mph. As soon as the tail wheel touched down, he heard a rumble "like a machine gun." The airplane then yawed to the right and he stepped on the left rudder, and then the airplane veered left. He then stepped on the right rudder, but the airplane departed the runway to the left, even with right rudder applied. He believed he exited the runway about 20mph.
- During the runway excursion, the right main landing gear collapsed.
- When he exited the airplane, he observed that the tailwheel was angled 90° to the right, or perpendicular with the fuselage.
- He stated that he was the pilot in command, and that he has a tailwheel endorsement. He reported that his father, who holds a flight instructor certificate, was seated in the back seat for "insurance purposes." He reported that he needed to build 25 hours of flight time in the airplane prior to soloing the airplane.