



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Eastern Region – Ashburn, Virginia

Record of Conversation

Who: Laland Booth, Commercial Pilot

Mr. Booth stated that he had recently purchased the airplane and hired the flight instructor to give him a tailwheel endorsement. He was seated in the front seat and the flight instructor was in the back. Mr. Booth said that they had already completed two successful landings and the accident occurred on the third landing. The airplane was operating normally right up until the last landing. Mr. Booth said he was at the controls and made a normal landing in a 12-14 knot right crosswind. Just as the tailwheel was about to settle onto the ground, the airplane began to veer to the right side of the runway. He used full left rudder to compensate, but the airplane continued off the right side of the runway and into the grass. The airplane continued to turn to the right and came to rest about 160 degrees opposite of the direction of landing. During the turn, the left main landing gear collapsed, and the left wing contacted the ground. Mr. Booth said he did not know what caused the airplane to go off the runway and was adamant that he did not touch the brakes after they landed. He said it was possible that they may have ground looped, but was not sure.

Mr. Booth said there were no mechanical issues that would have contributed to the accident.

Leah D. Read, Sr. ASI