

National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Aviation Safety

Washington, DC 20594



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WRECKAGE EXAMINATION SUMMARY

November 16, 2022

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A. ACCIDENT

Location: Oak Hill, Florida
Date: November 15, 2022
Time: 1530 EST
1930 UTC
Airplane: Experimental amateur-built DA-2

B. WRECKAGE EXAMINATION SUMMARY

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Party Coordinator <Enter First and Last Name>
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C. SUMMARY

On November 15, 2022, at 1530 eastern daylight time, an experimental amateur-built DA-2, N4307Q, was destroyed when it was involved in an accident near Oak Hill, Florida. The pilot was fatally injured. The airplane was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 personal flight.

A witness and seller of the airplane stated that he purchased the accident airplane two years ago and only had about 3 hours of flight time in the airplane. He further stated that the airplane was “very sensitive” on the flight controls. On the morning of the accident, he sold the airplane to the pilot. He said he asked the pilot if he had any tail dragger time and the pilot stated, “had a few in a champ.” He told the pilot that he should taxi the airplane up and down the runway a couple times to get used to it before he departs for his home airport. He heard the pilot taxi a couple times and then he heard the pilot power up to full power, and shortly after he heard the airplane hit the tree but did not see the airplane going down the runway or make contact with the tree.

Other witnesses that were standing in their yards or hangars, all seen the accident and stated the same occurrences. The airplane taxied up the down the runway a couple times before the pilot took the airplane to full power and started his takeoff roll. The airplane picked up speed and about halfway down the runway, the airplane veered hard left, off the runway and into a tree. The engine remained at full power the entire time.

DETAILS OF THE Investigation

1.0 Accident Site

The accident site was located 150 ft to the left side of runway 17 (midfield), at Blue Ridge Flightpark (34FD), Oakhill, Florida. Skid marks are present about 150 yards before the accident site and show the airplane veering left directly into a tree. About 40 feet before the tree, the skid marks revealed the airplane turning hard left like it tried to avoid the tree but the airplane skidded into the tree. The tail wheel impression marks are outside and to the right of both main gear indicating the airplane in a slide to the left.

2.0 Airframe Examination

The airplane impacted a tree on the right wing where the wing attaches to the fuselage. Both wing were separated from the fuselage and were laying beside the fuselage. The right wing was mostly crushed by the tree. The tail section was unremarkable. Flight control continuity was established to all primary flight controls. The canopy was fractured into several pieces.

3.0 Engine Examination

The engine, propeller, fuel tank, instrument panel, and throttle quadrant separated from the fuselage and rolled about 10 feet away from the main wreckage. The fuel tank was breached and only a small amount of fuel remained in the tank. Throttle and mixture controls moved smoothly. There were tree impression marks and tree bark on the No. 3 cylinder, no other damage noted on the engine. The propeller was made of wood and one blade fractured off near the hub. The spinner dome was unremarkable.

Submitted by:

Daniel Boggs
Air Safety Investigator