

National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Aviation Safety

Washington, DC 20594



ERA24FA362

WRECKAGE EXAMINATION

August 31, 2024

A. ACCIDENT

Location: Waynesville, Ohio
Date: August 30, 2024
Time: 1321 EDT
1721 UTC
Sailplane: N264JM

B. WRECKAGE EXAMINATION

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Party Coordinator Robert Craig
FAA/FSDO
Waynesville, Ohio

SUMMARY

On August 30, 2024, about 1321 eastern daylight time, a Schleicher Alexander GMBH ASH 26 E glider, N264JM, was substantially damaged when it was involved in an accident at the Caesar Creek Soaring Club Gliderport (2OH9), Waynesville, Ohio. The commercial pilot was fatally injured. The glider was operated as a Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91 personal flight.

The glider came to rest inverted on the runway and all major components of the airplane were accounted for at the scene. The cockpit area sustained significant impact damage. Flight continuity was established for all major flight controls to the cockpit area. Both spoilers were extended and deflected forward. Numerous breaks in the flight controls prevented a continuity check to the control stick, rudder pedals, and ailerons. The flap and spoiler levers were also impacted damaged, and their position could not be determined.

The glider was equipped with an engine; however, the engine was not being used at the time of the accident and was stowed.

No evidence of any preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures were identified that would have precluded normal operation.

The airplane's annual inspection was completed on November 15, 2023, at 2,058 total hours.

The 84 year old pilot held a commercial pilot certificate for gliders and private pilot certificate for airplane single-engine land. His last FAA third-class medical certificate was on August 17, 2017. At that time, he reported a total of 4,497 total flight hours. The third-class medical certificate expired for all classes in 2019, but the pilot had applied for BasicMed and completed the course on September 22, 2022.

Submitted by:

Leah D. Read
Sr. Air Safety Investigator.