

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

NTSB Form 6120.1

PILOT/OPERATOR AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT

Email the pilot/operator aircraft accident/incident report to the investigator-in-charge of your accident/incident. If email is not available, mail the report per the instructions below.

If your accident/incident occurred in Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or the US Virgin Islands, send the form to: NTSB, ERA, 45065 Riverside Parkway, Ashburn, VA 20147.

If your accident/incident occurred in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Colorado, or New Mexico, send the form to: NTSB, CEN, 4760 Oakland Street, Suite 500, Denver, CO 80239.

If your accident/incident occurred in Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, California, Hawaii, or the territories of Guam or American Samoa, send the form to: NTSB, WPR, 505 South 336th Street, Suite 540, Federal Way, WA 98003.

If your accident/incident occurred in Alaska, send the form to: NTSB, ANC, 222 West 7th Avenue, Room 216, Box 11, Anchorage, AK 99513.

Rules pertaining to notification of aircraft accidents and incidents, as well as overdue aircraft are found in 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 830 http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title49/49cfr830_main_02.tpl. These rules state the authority of the NTSB, define accidents, incidents, injuries, and other terms, and provide procedures for initial and immediate notification of accidents and incidents by aircraft pilots/operators.

A. APPLICABILITY

The pilot/operator of an aircraft shall send a report to the office listed above, based on accident/incident location; immediate notification is required by 49 CFR 830.5(a). **The report shall be filed within 10 days after an accident for which notification is required by Section 830.5, or after 7 days if an overdue aircraft is still missing.**

An aircraft accident, as defined in 49 CFR 830.2, is determined as an occurrence that involves a fatality or serious injury, or substantial damage to the aircraft. For occurrences that do not involve a fatality, the determination that the occurrence is an accident can be appealed by writing to the Director, Office of Aviation Safety, NTSB, 490 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20594.

INSTRUCTIONS TO PILOTS/OPERATORS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

It is necessary that ALL questions on this report be answered completely and accurately.

If more space is needed, continue on a blank sheet of paper.

Nearest City/Place: Use the name of the nearest community in the state where the accident/incident occurred.

Date/Time: Indicate the date and local time of the event. Be sure to indicate the time zone.

Phase of Operation: Indicate the phase of operation during which the accident/incident occurred.

Aircraft Information: Enter aircraft make and model information as indicated on the aircraft registration certificate, including series. If the involved aircraft is certified as "amateur-built," include the name of the producer of the kit or plans, unless an NTSB employee instructs otherwise.

Maximum Gross Weight: Enter the certificated maximum gross weight for the aircraft involved in the occurrence. This should be the same as the maximum gross weight indicated on the aircraft weight and balance documents.

Engine: Enter engine make and model information as indicated on the engine data plate.

The NTSB uses this form for aircraft accident prevention activities and for statistical purposes. NTSB regulations (49 CFR Part 830) require that **ALL** questions be answered completely and accurately. Completion of this form will take approximately 60 minutes. The NTSB does not guarantee the privacy of any information provided in this form. You need not complete this form unless it displays a valid OMB control number, in accordance with 5 C.F.R. § 1320.5(b), which applies to this collection of information.

B. DEFINITIONS

1. "Aircraft Accident" means an occurrence associated with the operation of an aircraft that takes place between the time any person boards the aircraft with the intention of flight and all such persons have disembarked, and in which any person suffers death, or serious injury, or in which the aircraft receives substantial damage. For purposes of this form, the definition of "aircraft accident" includes "unmanned aircraft accident," as defined at 49 CFR 830.2.

2. "Substantial Damage" means damage or failure that adversely affects the structural strength, performance or flight characteristics of the aircraft, and that would normally require major repair or replacement of the affected component. NOTE: Engine failure or damage limited to an engine if only one engine fails or is damaged, bent fairing or cowlings, dented skin, small puncture holes in the skin or fabric, ground damage to rotor or propeller blades, and damage to landing gear, wheels, tires, flaps, engine accessories, brakes, or wing tips are not considered "substantial damage" for purposes of this report.

3. "Operator" means any person who causes or authorizes the operation of an aircraft, such as the owner, lessee, or bailee of an aircraft.

4. "Fatal Injury" means any injury that results in death within thirty (30) days of the accident.

5. "Serious Injury" means any injury that (1) requires hospitalization for more than 48 hours, commencing within 7 days from the date the injury was received; (2) results in a fracture of any bone (except simple fracture of fingers, toes, or nose); (3) causes severe hemorrhages, nerve, muscle, or tendon damage; (4) involves injury to any internal organ; or (5) involves second- or third-degree burns, or any burns affecting more than 5 percent of the body surface.

Type of Fire Extinguishing System: If a fire extinguishing system was used to fight an aircraft fire, specify the type(s) of extinguishing system(s) used. Examples include handheld extinguisher, engine fire bottle, cargo/baggage compartment fire suppression system, or airport emergency ground equipment.

Owner/Operator Information: Enter the owner information as shown on the registration certificate. Commercial operators, enter the operator information, including "doing business as" when applicable, as shown on the operator certificate.

Revenue Sightseeing Flight: Indicate whether the accident aircraft was conducting **revenue** sightseeing operations under 14 CFR Part 91 at the time of the accident.

Air Medical Flight: Indicate whether the accident flight was being conducted for the purpose of carrying medical personnel, patient(s), or organs.

Public Aircraft: Federal, state or local government flight operations such as official travel, law-enforcement, low-level observation, aerial application, firefighting, search and rescue, biological or geological resource management, or aeronautical research. Indicate whether the flight was conducted by the armed forces, federal, state, or local government.

Purpose of Flight: 14 CFR Parts 91, 103, 133, 136, and 137: Indicate the type of operation that was being conducted at the time of the occurrence using the following definitions:

AERIAL APPLICATION--Operations using an aircraft to perform aerial application or dispersion of any substance. Examples include agricultural, health, forestry, cloud seeding, firefighting, insect control, etc.

AERIAL OBSERVATION--These flights include aerial mapping/photography, patrol, search and rescue, hunting, highway traffic advisory, ranching, surveillance, oil and mineral exploration, criminal pursuit, fish spotting, etc.

AIR DROP--Aerial operations, other than aerial application, that are intended to release items in flight.

AIR RACE/SHOW--Includes any flight operations conducted as part of an organized air race or public demonstration.

BUSINESS--includes all personal flying without a paid professional crew for reasons associated with furthering a business, including transportation to and from business meetings or work. This does not include corporate/executive operations, air taxi, or commuter operations.

EXECUTIVE/CORPORATE--Company flying with a paid, professional crew.

FERRY--Non-revenue flight under a special flight or "ferry" permit. Refer to 14 CFR 21.197 for details of special flight permit issuance.

FLIGHT TEST--Flight for the purpose of investigating the flight characteristics of an aircraft/aircraft component or evaluating an applicant for a pilot certificate or rating.

INSTRUCTIONAL--Flying while under the supervision of a flight instructor or receiving air carrier training. Personal proficiency flight operations and personal flight reviews, as required by federal air regulations, are excluded.

OTHER WORK USE--Miscellaneous flight operations conducted for compensation or hire such as construction work (not 14 CFR Part 135 operation), parachuting, aerial advertising, towing gliders, etc.

PERSONAL--Flying for personal reasons (excludes business transportation) including pleasure or personal transportation. This also includes practice or proficiency flights performed under flight instructor supervision and not part of an approved flight training program.

POSITIONING--Non-revenue flight conducted for the primary purpose of relocating the aircraft. Examples include moving the aircraft to a maintenance facility or to load passengers or cargo etc.

UNKNOWN--Use only if the primary purpose of flight is not known.

Other Aircraft--Collision: For all accidents involving a collision with another aircraft, including parked aircraft, check "Collision with other aircraft" under Basic Information and complete this section indicating details about the OTHER aircraft involved in the collision.

Airport Information: Complete this section if the accident/incident occurred on approach, landing, takeoff, departure, or within 3 statute miles of an airport. Please refer to the FAA Airport/Facility Directory or other official source for airport information.

Airport Identifier: Provide the official 3 or 4 character airport identifier number.

Runway: Indicate the number of the runway used, including L, R, or C if applicable.

Runway/Landing Surface: Indicate the type of intended runway/landing surface (do not indicate surface conditions). If the surface type was mixed, check all that apply.

Condition of Runway/Landing Surface: Indicate the condition of the intended runway/landing surface. If multiple conditions existed at the time of the accident, check all that apply.

Weather Information at the Accident/Incident Site: Indicate the weather conditions reported at the accident/incident site at the time of occurrence. If no weather reporting was available for the accident/incident site, indicate the reported conditions at the nearest reporting site. Specify the weather reporting site identifier, the observation time, and distance from the accident/incident.

Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition: Indicate the height above ground level of the lowest cloud condition present at the time of the accident/incident and whether coverage was reported as few, scattered, broken or overcast. Also indicate the height above ground level and coverage of the lowest cloud ceiling present at the time of the accident/incident (reported as broken or overcast).

NOTAMS (D and FDC), AIRMETs, SIGMETs, PIREPs: Describe all NOTAMS (distant (D) or Flight Data Center (FDC), if known), AIRMETs, SIGMETs, and PIREPs in effect near the accident/incident.

Flight Crewmember Information: Indicate the category that best describes the capacity served by this flight crewmember at the time of the accident. The designators "Flight Crewmember 1" and "Flight Crewmember 2" do not refer to a specific pilot position or responsibility. If more than one pilot is aboard, they may be entered in any order and their capacity entered as appropriate.

Degree of Injury: See Definitions on the top half of Page 1 of the instructions. Minor injury is not defined. If an injury does not meet the criteria for another injury category, select Minor.

Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent: Enter the date of the most recent flight review, or equivalent, completed by this pilot. Refer to 14 CFR 61.56 for accepted equivalents.

Type Ratings: List all type ratings on the pilot certificate. If the pilot holds no type ratings indicate "none." If the pilot holds a pilot certificate other than student and was flying an aircraft requiring an endorsement, enter the type and date of any logbook endorsement(s) for that aircraft. See 14 CFR 61 for examples of required endorsements.

Student Endorsements: If the pilot holds a student pilot certificate, enter all solo endorsements and dates on the student pilot certificate.

Flight Time: Complete the flight time matrix. Solo flight time should be included as "Pilot-in-Command (PIC)" and all dual flight instruction given should be included as "Time as Instructor."

Additional Flight Crewmembers: Complete this section if there were more than two required flight crewmembers on the aircraft. This also includes a check airman performing official duties but does not include cabin crew. State the capacity served by each included crewmember at the time of the accident.

Passenger(s)/Other Personnel: Enter identification and injury severity information for all passengers, cabin crew, and other personnel involved in the accident. See Page 1 of the instructions for the official definition of injury levels.

Several questions throughout the form allow for multiple responses; when appropriate, choose all responses that apply.

These instructions only pertain to major issue areas covered by NTSB Form 6120.1 Pilot/Operator Aircraft Accident/Incident Report. For additional definitions of questions and responses, please refer to www.ntsbgov.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD PILOT/OPERATOR AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT

This form to be used for reporting civil and public aircraft accidents and incidents

BASIC INFORMATION

Accident/Incident Location

Nearest City/Place: Alva State: FL3392C

ZIP: 33920 Country: USA

Latitude: 26 43 59.87N Longitude: 81 34 29.72W

(Enter in decimal degrees or degrees:minutes:seconds)

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 06/14/2024 Local Time: 18:27
mm/dd/yyyy

Time Zone: EST

Collision with Other Aircraft: ☐ Midair ☐ On-ground ☒ None

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N99TE

Manufacturer: Rotorway

Model: 162F

Serial Number: 6306

Year of Manufacture: 1999

Amateur-Built: ☒ Yes ☐ No If Yes: ☒ Kit/Plans ☐ Original Design Make: 162F

☐ IFR-Equipped and Certified

☐ Commercial Space Flight

☐ Unmanned Aircraft

Maximum Gross Weight: 1,500 lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: 1,380 lbs

Number of Seats: 2 Flight Crew Seats: 1

Cabin Crew Seats: 0 Passenger Seats: 1

Number of Engines: 1

Category of Aircraft

- ☐ Airplane
- ☐ Balloon
- ☐ Blimp/Dirigible
- ☐ Glider
- ☐ Gyroplane
- ☒ Helicopter
- ☐ Powered Lift
- ☐ Rocket
- ☐ Ultralight
- ☐ Unknown

Type of Airworthiness Certificate

(Check all that apply)

Standard

- ☐ Normal
- ☐ Aerobatic
- ☐ Balloon
- ☐ Commuter
- ☐ Transport
- ☐ Utility

Special

- ☐ Restricted
- ☐ Limited
- ☐ Provisional
- ☐ Special Flight
- ☒ Experimental
- ☐ Special Light-Sport
- ☐ Experimental Light-Sport

☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)

☐ None

☐ Unknown

Landing Gear

(Check all that apply)

☐ Retractable

☐ Tricycle ☐ Tailwheel

☐ Amphibian ☒ High Skid

☐ Emergency Float ☐ Skid

☐ Float ☐ Ski

☐ Hull ☐ Ski/Wheel

☐ Other Launch/Recovery System

☐ None

☐ Unknown

Engine Type (Select one)

- ☒ Reciprocating
- ☐ Turbo Shaft
- ☐ Turbo Prop
- ☐ Turbo Jet
- ☐ Turbo Fan
- ☐ Electric
- ☐ Liquid Rocket
- ☐ Solid Rocket
- ☐ Hybrid Rocket
- ☐ None
- ☐ Unknown

Fuel System Type (Reciprocating)

☐ Carburetor ☒ Fuel-Injected

Engine	Engine Manufacturer	Engine Model/Series	Manufacturer's Serial Number	Date of Mfg. mm/dd/yyyy	Rated Power ☒ Horsepower or ☐ lbs of Thrust	Total Time (hours)	Time Since: Inspection (hours)	Overhaul (hours)
Eng. 1	<u>Rotorway</u>	<u>162F</u>	<u>Unknown</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>425</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>245</u>
Eng. 2								
Eng. 3								
Eng. 4								

Last Inspection Type

- ☐ 100-Hour
- ☐ AAIP
- ☐ Annual
- ☐ Continuous Airworthiness
- ☒ Conditional Inspection
- ☐ Unknown

Date Last Inspection: 01/21/2024
mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 415 hrs

hours measured at (Select one)

☒ Last Inspection ☐ Time of Accident/Incident

Type of Maintenance Program (Select one)

- ☐ Annual
- ☐ Conditional (Amateur-built only)
- ☐ Manufacturer's Inspection Program
- ☐ Other Approved Inspection Program (AAIP)
- ☐ Continuous Airworthiness
- ☐ Other, specify: _____

Description of Fire Extinguishing System

- ☐ None
- ☐ Specify: _____

Propeller 1

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
- ☐ Controllable Pitch
- ☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

Propeller 2

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
- ☐ Controllable Pitch
- ☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

ELT Installed: ☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

ELT Manufacturer: Ameri-King

Model or Part No.: AK-450

TSO No.: ☒ C91 (121.5 MHz) ☐ C91a (121.5 MHz)
☐ C126 (406 MHz)

Was ELT still mounted in aircraft? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Was ELT still connected to antenna? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Did ELT Activate? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If activated:

Did ELT Aid in Locating Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If not activated:

- Indicate Reason:
- ☐ Impact Damage
 - ☐ Fire Damage
 - ☐ Battery Expired/Damaged
 - ☐ Unknown

Additional Equipment (Check all that apply)

- ☐ ADS-B
- ☐ Airframe Parachute
- ☐ Angle of Attack Indicator
- ☐ Autopilot
- ☐ Data Recorder
- ☐ Electronic Flight Bag or Handheld Device
- ☐ Electronic Multifunction Display
- ☐ Electronic Primary Flight Display
- ☐ Handheld GPS
- ☐ Heads Up Display
- ☐ Onboard Weather
- ☐ Satellite Tracking Device
- ☐ Stall Warning System
- ☐ Video Recording Device
- ☐ Other, Specify: _____

OWNER/OPERATOR INFORMATION**Registered Aircraft Owner**Name: Roper Aviation Services, Inc.City: AlvaFractional Ownership Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ NoState: FL ZIP: 33920Country: USA**Operator of Aircraft**☐ Same As Registered Owner☐ Same Address as Registered OwnerName: Robert J. RoperCity: AlvaDoing Business As: Roper Aviation Services, Inc.State: FL ZIP: 339230

Air Carrier/Operator Designator (4 Character Code): _____

Country: USA**Operating Certificates Held**

(Check all that apply)

- ☒ None
☐ Flag Carrier Operating Certificate (FAR 121)
☐ Supplemental
☐ Air Cargo
☐ Foreign Air Carriers (FAR 129)
☐ Rotorcraft External Load (FAR 133)
☐ Commuter Air Carrier (FAR 135)
☐ On-Demand Air Taxi (FAR 135)
☐ Commercial Air Tour (FAR 136)
☐ Agricultural Aircraft (FAR 137)
☐ Pilot School (FAR 141)
☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)
☐ Commercial Space Transportation
Experimental Permit
☐ Commercial Space Transportation License
☐ Other Operator of Large Aircraft

Regulation Flight Conducted Under

- ☒ FAR 91 ☐ FAR 129 ☐ FAR 415
☐ FAR 103 ☐ FAR 133 ☐ FAR 431
☐ FAR 121 ☐ FAR 135 ☐ FAR 435
☐ FAR 125 ☐ FAR 137 ☐ FAR 437
- ☐ FAR 91 Special Flight
☐ Non-US, Commercial
☐ Non-US, Non-commercial
- ☐ Public Aircraft (Select one)
☐ Armed Forces
☐ Federal
☐ State
☐ Local
☐ Unknown

Revenue Operation for FAR 121, 125, 129, 135

(Select one for each group)

- ☐ Scheduled or Commuter ☐ Domestic
☐ Non-Scheduled or Air Taxi ☐ International
- ☐ Passenger
☐ Cargo
☐ Mail Contract Only

Purpose of Flight for FAR 91, 103, 133, 137

(Select one)

- ☐ Aerial Application ☐ Firefighting ☐ Unknown
☐ Aerial Observation ☐ Flight Test
☐ Air Drop ☐ Glider Tow
☐ Air Race/Show ☐ Instructional
☐ Banner Tow ☐ Other Work Use
☐ Business ☒ Personal
☐ Executive/Corporate ☐ Positioning
☐ External Load ☐ Skydiving
☐ Ferry

Revenue Sightseeing Flight☐ Yes ☒ No**Air Medical Flight**☐ Yes ☒ No**AIRPORT INFORMATION (Fill in if accident/incident occurred on approach, landing, takeoff, departure, or within 3 miles of an airport)**Airport Name: Roper Helipad (Uncertified Heliport)Distance From Airport Center: N/A smAirport Identifier: N/A

Direction From Airport: _____ degrees true

Proximity to Airport: ☒ Off Airport/Airstrip ☐ On Airport/Airstrip ☐ N/AAirport Elevation: 20' ft. msl**Runway Information**Runway ID: N/A (L/R/C) Length: _____ ft Width: _____ ft**Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)**

- ☐ Asphalt ☒ Grass/Turf ☐ Macadam ☐ Water
☐ Concrete ☐ Gravel ☐ Metal/Wood
☐ Dirt ☐ Ice ☐ Snow ☐ Unknown

Condition of Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)

- ☒ Dry ☐ Snow-Compacted ☐ Water-Calm
☐ Holes ☐ Snow-Crusted ☐ Water-Choppy
☐ Ice Covered ☐ Snow-Dry ☐ Water-Glassy
☐ Rough ☐ Snow-Wet ☐ Wet
☐ Rubber Deposits ☐ Soft
☐ Slush-Covered ☐ Vegetation ☐ Unknown

Approach/Departure Segment (Select one)

- ☐ Taxi ☐ VFR Departure ☐ On Instrument Approach ☐ Downwind ☐ Low Approach
☐ Takeoff ☐ IFR Departure Procedure/Clearance ☐ Landing ☐ Base ☐ Go Around
☐ Initial Climb ☐ Aborted Landing (after touchdown)
☐ Crosswind ☐ Unknown

IFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☒ None
- ☐ ADF/NDB ☐ PAR ☐ MLS ☐ Practice
☐ SDF ☐ Sidestep ☐ LDA ☐ GPS
☐ VOR/TVOR ☐ ILS ☐ ASR
☐ VOR/DME ☐ Localizer Only ☐ Visual
☐ TACAN ☐ LOC-back course ☐ Contact
☐ RNAV ☐ Circling
☐ Unknown

VFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
- ☒ Traffic Pattern ☐ Stop and Go
☐ Straight-In ☐ Touch and Go
☐ Valley/Terrain Following ☐ Simulated Forced Landing
☐ Go Around ☐ Forced Landing
☐ Full Stop ☐ Precautionary Landing
☐ Unknown

“Flight Crewmember 1” Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident

“Flight Crewmember 1” was pilot flying ☒ Yes ☐ No

First Name: Robert

City of Residence: [Alva](#)

Middle Initial: J

State: **FL** ZIP: **33920**

Last Name: Roper

Country: USA

Age at time of Accident/Incident: 67 Date of Birth: [REDACTED] mm/dd/yyyy

Certificate Number: [REDACTED]

☒ None ☐ Fatal
☐ Minor ☐ Unknown
☐ Serious

☒ Left ☐ Front ☐ Unknown
☐ Right ☐ Rear
☐ Center ☐ Single

Available

☐ None
☐ Lap only
☐ 3-point
☐ 4-point
☐ 5-point
☐ Unknown

☐ None
☐ Lap only
☐ 3-point
☒ 4-point
☐ 5-point
☐ Unknown

- ☒ Not Installed
- ☐ Installed
- ☐ Not Deployed
- ☐ Deployed
- ☐ Unknown

☐ None
 ☒ Flight Instructor
 ☒ Commercial
 ☐ US Military

☐ Private
 ☐ Recreational
 ☒ Airline Transport
 ☐ Foreign

☐ Student
 ☐ Sport
 ☐ Flight Engineer

☐ Pilot
☒ Other
☐ Unknown

☐ None
 ☐ Class 3
☐ Class 1
 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only)
☐ Class 2
 ☐ Unknown

☐ Without limitations/waivers ☐ Unknown
☒ With limitations/waivers ☐ N/A
☐ Special Issuance

03/08/2023
mm/dd/yyyy

Basic Med. Must wear glasses (from previous Class II)

**Date of Last Flight Review
or Equivalent, Including
FAR 121/135 Checks:**

05/25/2024
mm/dd/yyyy

Make: [Rotorway](#)
Model: [162F](#)

☐ None
☒ Single-Engine Land
☒ Single-Engine Sea
☒ Multiengine Land
☐ Multiengine Sea

☐ None
☐ Airship
☐ Balloon
☐ Glider
☐ Gyroplane
☒ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

☐ None
☒ Airplane
☒ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

☐ None	☒ Instrument Airplane
☐ Airplane Single-Engine	☒ Instrument Helicopter
☒ Airplane Multi-Engine	☒ Helicopter
☐ Gyroplane	☐ Glider
☐ Powered Lift	☐ Sport

DC3TP

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Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Age at time of Accident/Incident: _____ Date of Birth: _____ mm/dd/yyyy

[illegible]

ADDITIONAL FLIGHT CREWMEMBERS (Exclusive of cabin crew, complete the following information)						
Crew Name and Address			Seat Occupied		Injury	
First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____			☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown ☐ Unknown		☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Private ☐ Student ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Recreational ☐ Sport ☐ Commercial ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Flight Engineer ☐ US Military ☐ Foreign			Restraint Type: Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No		Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs				
Crew Name and Address			Seat Occupied		Injury	
First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____			☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown ☐ Unknown		☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Private ☐ Student ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Recreational ☐ Sport ☐ Commercial ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Flight Engineer ☐ US Military ☐ Foreign			Restraint Type: Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No		Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs				
PASSENGER(S) / OTHER PERSONNEL (Include cabin crew; continue on separate sheet if necessary)						
Name and Address		Seat	Injury	Restraint Type		Inflatable Restraints
First Name: <u>Timothy</u> City : <u>Dothan</u> Middle Initial: <u>J</u> State: <u>AL</u> ZIP: <u>36301</u> Last Name: <u>Roper</u> Country: <u>USA</u> ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other		☐ Left ☐ Center ☒ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☒ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☒ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☒ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years <i>If Under 5,</i> ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other		☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years <i>If Under 5,</i> ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other		☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years <i>If Under 5,</i> ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other		☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years <i>If Under 5,</i> ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown

FLIGHT ITINERARY INFORMATION

Last Departure Point Airport ID: <u>Private</u> City: <u>Alva</u> State: <u>FL</u> Country: <u>USA</u>	Time of Departure Time: <u>1822</u> Time Zone: <u>EST</u>	Destination Airport ID: <u>N/A</u> City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____	Type Flight Plan Filed ☒ None ☐ VFR/IFR ☐ Company VFR ☐ IFR ☐ Military VFR ☐ Unknown ☐ VFR Activated? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
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Type of ATC Clearance/Service (Check all that apply)				
☒ None	☐ Special VFR	☐ Special IFR	☐ VFR Flight Following	☐ Cruise
☐ VFR	☐ IFR	☐ VFR On Top	☐ Traffic Advisory	☐ Unknown / NA

Airspace where the accident/incident occurred (Check all that apply)			Altitude of In-Flight Occurrence: <u>150</u> ft msl
☐ Class A	☒ Class G	☐ Military Operations Area (MOA)	☐ Special
☐ Class B	☐ Demo Area	☐ Airport Advisory Area	☐ Air Traffic Control Area
☐ Class C	☐ Warning Area	☐ Jet Training Area	☐ Unknown
☐ Class D	☐ Prohibited Area	☐ TRSA	
☐ Class E	☐ Restricted Area	☐ FAR 93	

WEATHER INFORMATION AT THE ACCIDENT/INCIDENT SITE

Source of Pilot Weather Information (Check all that apply)	Weather Observation Facility Facility ID: <u>N/A</u> Observation Time: _____ Time Zone: _____ Distance from Accident Site: _____ nm Direction from Accident Site: _____ degrees true
☐ National Weather Service ☐ Flight Service Station ☐ TV/Radio ☐ Automated Report ☐ Commercial Weather Service (DUATS) ☐ On-Board Weather	☐ Company ☐ Military ☐ Internet ☒ None ☐ Unknown

Basic Conditions ☒ VMC ☐ IMC ☐ Unknown	Light Condition ☐ Dawn ☒ Dusk ☐ Dark Night ☐ Unknown ☐ Day ☐ Night ☐ Bright Night
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Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition ☐ Clear ☐ Thin Broken ☐ Few ☒ Thin Overcast ☐ Partial Obscuration ☐ Unknown ☐ Scattered	Ceiling ☐ None (Clear) ☐ Obscured ☒ Broken ☐ Indefinite ☐ Overcast ☐ Unknown	Temperature: _____ (C) or <u>85</u> (F) Dew Point: _____ (C) or _____ (F) Altimeter Setting: _____ in. Hg or _____ MB
Lowest Cloud Condition Height <u>5000</u> ft agl	Ceiling Height <u>5000</u> ft agl	

Wind Direction ☒ Variable -or- Direction: _____ degrees true	Wind Speed ☐ Calm ☒ Light and Variable -or- Speed: _____ kts	Wind Gusts ☒ Not Gusting -or- Speed: _____ kts	Visibility <u>10</u> miles RVR: _____ feet RVV: _____ miles Density Altitude: _____ ft
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Intensity of Precipitation ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Heavy ☒ N/A ☐ Unknown	Type of Precipitation (Check all that apply)	Restriction to Visibility (Check all that apply)
	☒ None ☐ Drizzle ☐ Freezing Rain ☐ Rain ☐ Ice Pellets ☐ Snow Shower ☐ Snow ☐ Snow Pellets ☐ Ice Pellets Shower ☐ Hail ☐ Snow Grains ☐ Freezing Drizzle ☐ Rain Showers ☐ Ice Crystals	☒ None ☐ Fog ☐ Blowing Dust ☐ Ground Fog ☐ Blowing Sand ☐ Haze ☐ Blowing Snow ☐ Ice Fog ☐ Blowing Spray ☐ Smoke ☐ Dust ☐ Unknown

Icing Forecast Amount ☒ None ☐ Trace ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Severe ☐ Unknown Type ☒ N/A ☐ Rime ☐ Clear ☐ Mixed ☐ Unknown	Icing Actual Amount ☒ None ☐ Trace ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Severe ☐ Unknown Type ☒ N/A ☐ Rime ☐ Clear ☐ Mixed ☐ Unknown	Turbulence Type (Check all that apply) ☒ None ☐ Clear Air ☐ Terrain-Induced ☐ Convective Turbulence Severity ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Severe ☐ Extreme
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NOTAMs (D and FDC), AIRMETs, SIGMETs, PIREPs in effect at the time of the accident/incident:

DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT AND OTHER PROPERTY**Aircraft Damage**

- ☐ None ☒ Substantial
☐ Minor ☐ Destroyed
☐ Unknown

Aircraft Fire

- ☒ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Fire at Unknown Time
☐ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Aircraft Explosion

- ☒ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Explosion at Unknown Time
☐ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Description of Damage to Aircraft and Other Property *(Use additional sheet if necessary)*

Main Rotor Blades.
Tail Rotor Blades.
Tail boom.
Windshield.

NARRATIVE HISTORY OF FLIGHT *(Please type or print in ink)*

Describe what occurred in chronological order, including circumstances leading to and nature of accident/incident. Describe terrain and include wreckage distribution sketch if pertinent. Attach extra sheets if needed. State departure time and location, services obtained, and intended destination. Provide as much detail as possible.

The flight departed from my home on 6-14-2024 at approximately 17:18:22 local.

I (Robert Roper) conducted the preflight, the start up, and all checklists provided with the helicopter. I lifted into a hover to conduct a stability check and noted hover power at about 29" manifold pressure. I departed my property to the north and made a right turn east bound. At about 200' I offered the controls to my son (a commercially rated helicopter pilot). We flew to an airstrip (Alma, a crop dusting airstrip) just east of my home.

My son began a normal approach into the airstrip (Alma) with the intent to make either a low pass without a hover or hover and depart. There was no intention of landing at the airstrip. Maintaining an altitude of about 300', Timothy circled the airstrip for recon and determined an approach to the east would be appropriate. During the approach at approximately 100-150' agl and 20-30 mph (heading 090) we passed through ETL. Rotor RPM was on the lower end but in the green and corrections were being applied.

Once below ETL the aircraft made an uncommanded yaw to the left even with full right pedal applied. At that point I announced, "I have the controls" and began the recovery from LTE by applying forward cyclic while increasing power with the throttle and "milking the collective". We were in a descending left turn with full right pedal applied. The aircraft began responding to the recovery control input by slowing the rate of turn while the rate of descent decreased to almost level (estimated 50 fpm rate of descent).

We were unable to choose the location for the touch down and the left skid touch first on level ground while the right skid was over a canal. The rate of descent and forward motion were minimal at touchdown. The landing gear was not damaged in the landing and the main rotor did not contact the tail-boom at any time.

Additional observations since my initial report:

At the time uncontrolled flight was encountered, the aircraft was being operated well within the limitations of the Flight Manual. This aircraft is capable of an OGE hover at altitudes of up to 5,000'. The DA for the given flight was 2,000' at the most. The OGE limitation is due to power, not tail rotor authority. The winds were very light, hardly observable, and the direction was variable. Limitations according to the Flight Manual are "sideways and rearwards flight limited to 20 mph". Max gross weight for this aircraft is 1,500 lbs, and the aircraft was at approx. 1,380 lbs. The hover check noted normal hover power, (29" hg) and balance of the aircraft was within normal ranges.

My initial report to the NTSB was LTE that resulted as we passed through ETL because that is a defined point when an increase in tail rotor control needs to be applied to overcome aerodynamic tendencies. In hind-sight, while it is true that approaching ETL requires an increase in anti-torque, it is not anywhere near what would be required for a normal hover with the associated higher power settings (more torque). At the time of loss of control, the aircraft was still moving forward an estimated 15-20 mph. The aircraft was in a stabilized controlled descent (estimated at less than 250 fpm although not observed by the VSI) with minimal descent power (less torque). The approach was very stable and the winds were not a factor.

For LTE to be encountered in this phase of flight would have required either a mechanical malfunction; or much higher winds, higher gross weight, higher density altitude, and higher power settings (none of which were encountered when loss of control occurred).

The tail rotor belt was installed new at about 411 hours total time, on 12-01-2022. Witness marks were drawn on the slider as per Rotorway instructions (1" max slider adjustment between belt replacements or 300 hrs). When the FAA inspector pulled the tail rotor belt tensioner plate to meet the location the elastic stop nut, the plate was physically observed to be in a position that would have resulted in an insufficient tail rotor belt tension to maintain tail rotor rpm (due to belt slippage) as needed for controlled flight. Loss of control at ETL was not likely aerodynamic, but insufficient tail rotor authority due to the displacement of the tensioner plate.

RECOMMENDATION (How could this accident/incident have been prevented?)

Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation

Create an inspection opening on the tail cone near the tail rotor belt tensioner plate. This would allow for routine inspection of the status of the tensioner nuts. An opening (or small door) would allow for visual verification of this critical component to be easily performed during a regular preflight inspection.

As it is currently equipped, an inspection could be done by removing the tail cone, (removing fasteners and disconnection the tail light wires) but this is not typically done unless the belt tension does not pass the spring scale test.

MECHANICAL MALFUNCTION/FAILURE (If more space is needed, continue on separate sheet)Was there Mechanical Malfunction/Failure? ☒ Yes ☐ No*(If yes, list the name of the part, manufacturer, part no., serial no., and describe the failure.)*

One (of two) of the jam nuts on the tail rotor tensioner plate and slider was found loose after the accident. While the jam nut does not hold belt tension, it does hold the elastic stop nut from rotation. The elastic stop nut had moved enough that belt tension would have been affected.

The result would have been a decrease in tail rotor authority due to drive belt slippage.

Total Time/Cycles On Part425 Hours

Cycles

Time Since This Part Inspected/Overhauled10 Hours**FUEL & SERVICES INFORMATION****Fuel on Board at Last Takeoff***(Convert from pounds, as necessary)*10 Gallons**Fuel Type**☐ 80/87☐ 115/145☐ Jet B☐ Other, specify _____☐ 100 Low Lead☐ Jet A☐ JP8☐ 100/130☐ Jet A-1☒ Automotive**Other Services, if Any, Prior to Departure****EVACUATION OF AIRCRAFT**Was an emergency evacuation of the aircraft performed? ☒ Yes ☐ No**Method of Exit** – Describe how the occupants exited and how many occupants evacuated each location

The aircraft came to rest on it's right side. The left seat occupant (Robert Roper) exited first. Exiting the aircraft damaged the windshield severely. The right seat passenger exited immediately after. The means of egress was not hindered in any way.

OTHER AIRCRAFT – COLLISION (If air or ground collision occurred, complete this section for other aircraft)**Aircraft Registration Number**N/A**Manufacturer:** _____**Model:** _____**Damage to Other Aircraft**☐ Destroyed☐ Minor☐ Substantial☐ None**Registered Owner of Other Aircraft**

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Country: _____

Pilot of Other Aircraft

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Country: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Please type or print in ink)

Use this space if additional space is needed for any answers.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE

Date of this Report

07/04/2024

mm/dd/yyyy

Name of Pilot/Operator: Robert J.Roper

Signature: _____

-- or -- ☒ Check here to electronically sign this document

If a Person Other than Pilot/Operator is Filing Report

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

-- or -- ☐ Check here to electronically sign this document

FOR NTSB USE ONLY

NTSB Accident/Incident No.

ERA24LA263

Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office

Eastern

Name of Investigator

A. McCarter

Date Report Received

7/5/2024