



Gene Rambo
Aviation Accident Investigator
Aviation Safety - Eastern Region

Date: 15 October 2025

Subject: ERA26LA013

Contact: Owner/Pilot [REDACTED]

I spoke with Pilot [REDACTED] regarding his event, informing him we had determined it to be an accident and that I have sent him a 6120 form. We discussed the form at length, and I expect to receive it soon.

On the day of the accident, Mr. [REDACTED] and his wife (also a pilot) were on a personal flight with a group of other aircraft flying to Albert Witted Airport (SDQ) for lunch. The group often makes such trips up to three times per week. He checked several weather sources and noted that the winds were reported to be gusting to 22kts but was not concerned. While taxiing out taxiway E in Venice they had a quartering gusting tailwind. An abrupt wind gust suddenly pushed the aircraft sideways and off the taxiway into a drainage ditch alongside the taxiway. Both he and his wife said that it happened very quickly. Mr. [REDACTED] believed that he was putting in the correct control inputs for a tailwind, and denies being distracted by phone or other electronics, or any other distraction. He states that there was no mechanical issue with the aircraft.