

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: Phoenix State: AZ
 ZIP: _____ Country: USA
 Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____
(Enter in decimal degrees or degrees:minutes:seconds)

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 03/28/2018 Local Time: 8:30 a.m.
mm/dd/yyyy

Time Zone: Mountain

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

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N64EX

Manufacturer: Ultramagic SA

Model: N-300

Serial Number: 300/59

Year of Manufacture: 2016

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

- ☐ IFR-Equipped and Certified
☐ Commercial Space Flight
☐ Unmanned Aircraft

Maximum Gross Weight: 6,446 lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: 2,275 lbs

Number of Seats: 0 Flight Crew Seats: 0

Cabin Crew Seats: 0 Passenger Seats: 0

Number of Engines: 0

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

Fuel System Type *(Reciprocating)*

- ☐ Carburetor ☐ Fuel-Injected

Engine	Engine Manufacturer	Engine Model/Series	Manufacturer's Serial Number	Date of Mfg. <i>mm/dd/yyyy</i>	Rated Power ☐ Horsepower or ☐ lbs of Thrust	Total Time (hours)	Time Since: Inspection (hours)	Overhaul (hours)
Eng. 1								
Eng. 2								
Eng. 3								
Eng. 4								

Last Inspection Type

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

Date Last Inspection: 10/25/17
mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 327.9 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: _____

Model or Part No.: _____

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: <u>Hot Air Expeditions</u> Fractional Ownership Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ No		City: <u>Phoenix</u> State: <u>AZ</u> ZIP: <u>85024</u> Country: <u>USA</u>	
Operator of Aircraft ☐ Same As Registered Owner Name: <u>Scott L. Carroll</u> Doing Business As: _____ Air Carrier/Operator Designator (4 Character Code): _____		☐ Same Address as Registered Owner City: <u>Phoenix</u> State: <u>AZ</u> ZIP: <u>85020</u> Country: <u>USA</u>	
Operating Certificates Held <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ 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 <i>(Select one)</i> ☐ Armed Forces ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ Local ☐ Unknown	Revenue Operation for FAR 121, 125, 129, 135 <i>(Select one for each group)</i> ☐ Scheduled or Commuter ☐ Domestic ☐ Non-Scheduled or Air Taxi ☐ International ☒ Passenger ☐ Cargo ☐ Mail Contract Only	
Revenue Sightseeing Flight ☒ Yes ☐ No		Air Medical Flight ☐ Yes ☒ No	
AIRPORT INFORMATION <i>(Fill in if accident/incident occurred on approach, landing, takeoff, departure, or within 3 miles of an airport)</i>			
Airport Name: <u>N/A</u> Airport Identifier: _____ Proximity to Airport: ☐ Off Airport/Airstrip ☐ On Airport/Airstrip ☐ N/A		Distance From Airport Center: _____ sm Direction From Airport: _____ degrees true Airport Elevation: _____ ft. msl	
Runway Information Runway ID: _____ (L/R/C) Length: _____ ft Width: _____ ft		Condition of Runway/Landing Surface <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ 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	
Runway/Landing Surface <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ Asphalt ☐ Grass/Turf ☐ Macadam ☐ Water ☐ Concrete ☐ Gravel ☐ Metal/Wood ☐ Dirt ☐ Ice ☐ Snow ☐ Unknown			
Approach/Departure Segment <i>(Select one)</i> ☐ Taxi ☐ VFR Departure ☐ On Instrument Approach ☐ Downwind ☐ Low Approach ☐ Takeoff ☐ IFR Departure Procedure/Clearance ☐ Landing ☐ Base ☐ Go Around ☐ Initial Climb ☐ ☐ ☐ Final ☐ Aborted Landing (after touchdown) ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Crosswind ☐ Unknown			
IFR Approach <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ 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 <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ 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" INFORMATION																																																																																																				
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"Flight Crewmember 1" was pilot flying ☒ Yes ☐ No																																																																																																				
"Flight Crewmember 1" Identification First Name: <u>Scott</u> Middle Initial: <u>L</u> Last Name: <u>Carroll</u> City of Residence: <u>Phoenix</u> State: <u>AZ</u> ZIP: <u>85020</u> Country: <u>USA</u> Age at time of Accident/Incident: <u>67</u> Date of Birth: [REDACTED] <i>mm/dd/yyyy</i> Certificate Number: [REDACTED]																																																																																																				
Degree of Injury ☒ None ☐ Fatal ☐ Minor ☐ Unknown ☐ Serious			Seat Occupied ☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Unknown ☐ Right ☐ Rear ☐ Center ☐ Single			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																																																																																											
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Principal Occupation ☒ Pilot ☐ Other ☐ Unknown		Medical Certificate ☐ None ☐ Class 3 ☐ Class 1 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only) ☐ Class 2 ☐ Unknown			Date of Last Medical <u>05/26/2017</u> <i>mm/dd/yyyy</i>																																																																																															
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Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks: <u>12/02/2017</u> <i>mm/dd/yyyy</i>				Flight Review Aircraft Make: <u>Cameron</u> Model: <u>AX8B</u>																																																																																																
Airplane Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☒ None ☐ Single-Engine Land ☐ Single-Engine Sea ☐ Multiengine Land ☐ Multiengine Sea			Other Aircraft Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ None ☐ Airship ☒ Balloon ☐ Glider ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift			Instrument Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☒ None ☐ Airplane ☐ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift			Instructor Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☒ None ☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Powered Lift ☐ Instrument Airplane ☐ Instrument Helicopter ☐ Helicopter ☐ Glider ☐ Sport																																																																																											
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"Flight Crewmember 2" was pilot flying ☐ Yes ☐ No																																																																																												
"Flight Crewmember 2" Identification First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____ Last Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Country: _____ Age at time of Accident/Incident: _____ Date of Birth: _____ <i>mm/dd/yyyy</i> Certificate Number: _____																																																																																												
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ADDITIONAL FLIGHT CREWMEMBERS (Exclusive of cabin crew, complete the following information)							
Crew Name and Address First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____			Seat Occupied ☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown		Injury ☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown		
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military ☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer			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 First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____			Seat Occupied ☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown		Injury ☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown		
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military ☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer			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 First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other		Seat ☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	Injury ☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	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	Age ☐ 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>N/A</u> City: <u>Phoenix</u> State: <u>AZ</u> Country: <u>USA</u>		Time of Departure Time: <u>7:30 a.m.</u> Time Zone: <u>Mountain</u>		Destination Airport ID: <u>N/A</u> City: <u>Phoenix - Local</u> State: <u>AZ</u> Country: <u>USA</u>
Type Flight Plan Filed ☒ None ☐ Company VFR ☐ Military VFR ☐ VFR ☐ VFR/IFR ☐ IFR ☐ Unknown ☐ Unknown Activated? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown				
Type of ATC Clearance/Service (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☒ VFR ☐ Special VFR ☐ IFR ☐ Special IFR ☐ VFR On Top ☐ VFR Flight Following ☐ Traffic Advisory ☐ Cruise ☐ Unknown / NA				
Airspace where the accident/incident occurred (Check all that apply) ☐ Class A ☐ Class B ☐ Class C ☐ Class D ☐ Class E ☐ Class G ☐ Demo Area ☐ Warning Area ☐ Prohibited Area ☐ Restricted Area ☐ Military Operations Area (MOA) ☐ Airport Advisory Area ☐ Jet Training Area ☐ TRSA ☐ FAR 93 ☐ Special ☐ Air Traffic Control Area ☒ Unknown Altitude of In-Flight Occurrence: _____ ft msl				
WEATHER INFORMATION AT THE ACCIDENT/INCIDENT SITE				
Source of Pilot Weather Information (Check all that apply) ☒ National Weather Service ☐ Flight Service Station ☒ TV/Radio ☐ Automated Report ☐ Commercial Weather Service (DUATS) ☐ On-Board Weather			Weather Observation Facility Facility ID: _____ Observation Time: _____ Time Zone: _____ Distance from Accident Site: _____ nm Direction from Accident Site: _____ degrees true	
Basic Conditions ☒ VMC ☐ IMC ☐ Unknown		Light Condition ☐ Dawn ☐ Dusk ☐ Dark Night ☐ Unknown ☒ Day ☐ Night ☐ Bright Night		
Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition ☒ Clear ☐ Thin Broken ☐ Few ☐ Thin Overcast ☐ Partial Obscuration ☐ Unknown ☐ Scattered Lowest Cloud Condition Height _____ ft agl		Ceiling ☒ None (Clear) ☐ Obscured ☐ Broken ☐ Indefinite ☐ Overcast ☐ Unknown Ceiling Height _____ 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		
Intensity of Precipitation ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Heavy ☒ N/A ☐ Unknown		Type of Precipitation (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		
Restriction to Visibility (Check all that apply) ☒ 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 ☐ Light ☐ Clear Air ☐ Moderate ☐ Terrain-Induced ☐ Severe ☐ Convective Turbulence ☐ Extreme				
NOTAMs (D and FDC), AIRMETs, SIGMETs, PIREPs in effect at the time of the accident/incident: None				

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)*

Aircraft was burned (Envelope and basket)
Total Loss

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.

March 28, 2018

Departed approximately 7:30 a.m. (Mountain Time) location Carefree Highway and 16th Street, Phoenix, AZ.

Normal flight (1 hour duration). Landed in desert area vicinity of Carefree Highway and 36th Street approximate time 8:30 a.m.

Landing was normal. (3-4 mph) Landed on dirt road.

The balloon came to rest pressing up against a small tree. When I proceeded to add heat to the balloon to reposition for deflation, a small hole appeared in the fabric and a small tree branch protruded. At that point, the tree branch caught fire causing the envelope fabric to catch fire. This started as a small hole (approximately 6-8 inches) and accelerated rapidly.

Passengers were already starting to exit the basket in normal fashion when this occurred. All were clear of any danger and escorted by the ground crew to a safe distance from the balloon.

Two fire extinguishers were immediately deployed in an attempt to extinguish the fire, however the fire accelerated rapidly as the tree became fuel for the fire.

The burning envelope fabric fell into the wicker basket rapidly igniting it. Fire extinguishers were being used but were of no use. The fire was totally out of control in a matter of minutes.

The Fire Department and Maricopa County Sheriffs Department arrived on scene and the Fire Department extinguished what was left of the fire but at this point the balloon was a total loss.

RECOMMENDATION (How could this accident/incident have been prevented?)**Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation**

This was a normal landing under normal conditions. The tree that the envelope came in contact with was a small desert tree. The branch that was pressing in on the envelope was a small branch however, must have been close enough to ignite from the radiant heat of the burner flame as heat was being adding to the balloon to reposition it for deflation.
In all my experience, I did not think that this was going to be any type of a problem.
In retrospect, I would have to say that the incident could have been prevented had the burner flame not been deployed while the tree branch was pressing up against the envelope.

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.)

**Total Time/Cycles
On Part**

____ Hours
____ Cycles

**Time Since This Part
Inspected/Overhauled**

____ Hours

FUEL & SERVICES INFORMATION

Fuel on Board at Last Takeoff
(Convert from pounds, as necessary)

80 _____ Gallons

Fuel Type

☐ 80/87 ☐ 115/145 ☐ Jet B ☒ Other, specify Propane
☐ 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

13 occupants exited safely by climbing out of basket. Normal exit procedure.

OTHER AIRCRAFT – COLLISION (If air or ground collision occurred, complete this section for other aircraft)

Aircraft Registration Number

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**

03/30/2018
mm/dd/yyyy

Name of Pilot/Operator: Scott L. Carroll**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.
GAA18CA185

Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office
GAA

Name of Investigator
Eric Swenson

Date Report Received
03/30/2018