

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: Mojave State: CA

ZIP: 93501 Country: United States

Latitude: 35:03:12.51 Longitude: 118:11:05.52

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

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 03/26/2022 Local Time: 1100
mm/dd/yyyy

Time Zone: PST

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

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N88KL

Manufacturer: Dennis Allen Addams

Model: VariEze

Serial Number: 1644

Year of Manufacture: 1983

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

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

Maximum Gross Weight: 1,200 lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: 1,229 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 ☐ 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. mm/dd/yyyy	Rated Power ☒ Horsepower or ☐ lbs of Thrust	Total Time (hours)	Time Since: Inspection (hours)	Overhaul (hours)
Eng. 1	<u>Continental</u>	<u>O-200-A</u>	<u>253525</u>		<u>100</u>	<u>3443.1</u>		<u>623.1</u>
Eng. 2								
Eng. 3								
Eng. 4								

Last Inspection Type

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

Date Last Inspection: 03/20/2022
mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 1192.1 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: Unkonwn

Model: Unknown

Propeller 2

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
☐ Controllable Pitch
☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

ELT Installed: ☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

ELT Manufacturer: ACK

Model or Part No.: E-01

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: Douglas Robert RybczynskiCity: TehachapiState: CAZIP: 93561Fractional Ownership Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ NoCountry: United States**Operator of Aircraft**☒ Same As Registered Owner☒ Same Address as Registered Owner

Name: _____

City: _____

Doing Business As: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

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

Country: _____

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: Mojave Air and Space PortDistance From Airport Center: 2 smAirport Identifier: KMHVDirection From Airport: 258 degrees trueProximity to Airport: ☒ Off Airport/Airstrip ☐ On Airport/Airstrip ☐ N/AAirport Elevation: 2801 ft. msl**Runway Information**Runway ID: 26 (L/R/C) Length: 7094 ft Width: 100 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" INFORMATION

"Flight Crewmember 1" Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident

☒ Pilot
 ☐ Co-Pilot
 ☐ Student Pilot
 ☐ Flight Instructor
 ☐ Check Pilot
 ☐ Flight Engineer
 ☐ Other Flight Crew

"Flight Crewmember 1" was pilot flying ☒ Yes ☐ No

"Flight Crewmember 1" Identification

First Name: Douglas City of Residence: Tehachapi
 Middle Initial: R State: CA ZIP: 93561
 Last Name: Rybczynski Country: United States
 Age at time of Accident/Incident: 26 Date of Birth: mm/dd/yyyy
 Certificate Number:

Degree of Injury ☐ None ☐ Fatal ☒ Minor ☐ Unknown ☐ Serious	Seat Occupied ☐ Left ☒ Front ☐ Unknown ☐ Right ☐ Rear ☐ Center ☐ Single	Restraint Type <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Available</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Used</th> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ None</td> <td>☐ None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Lap only</td> <td>☐ Lap only</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ 3-point</td> <td>☐ 3-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☒ 4-point</td> <td>☒ 4-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ 5-point</td> <td>☐ 5-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Unknown</td> <td>☐ Unknown</td> </tr> </table>	Available	Used	☐ None	☐ None	☐ Lap only	☐ Lap only	☐ 3-point	☐ 3-point	☒ 4-point	☒ 4-point	☐ 5-point	☐ 5-point	☐ Unknown	☐ Unknown	Inflatable Restraints ☒ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown
Available	Used																
☐ None	☐ None																
☐ Lap only	☐ Lap only																
☐ 3-point	☐ 3-point																
☒ 4-point	☒ 4-point																
☐ 5-point	☐ 5-point																
☐ Unknown	☐ Unknown																
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☒ Flight Instructor ☒ Commercial ☐ US Military ☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer		Medical Certificate ☐ None ☐ Class 3 ☒ Class 1 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only) ☐ Class 2 ☐ Unknown															
Principal Occupation ☐ Pilot ☒ Other ☐ Unknown	Medical Certificate Validity ☒ Without limitations/waivers ☐ Unknown ☐ With limitations/waivers ☐ N/A ☐ Special Issuance		Date of Last Medical <u>11/02/2020</u> mm/dd/yyyy														

Medical Certificate Limitations

None

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

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

08/16/2020
mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: Piper
 Model: PA-28-181 "Archer II"

Airplane Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☒ Single-Engine Land ☒ Single-Engine Sea ☒ Multiengine Land ☐ Multiengine Sea	Other Aircraft Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Airship ☐ Balloon ☒ Glider ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift	Instrument Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☒ Airplane ☐ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift	Instructor Rating(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☒ Instrument Airplane ☒ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Instrument Helicopter ☒ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Helicopter ☐ Gyroplane ☒ Glider ☐ Powered Lift ☐ Sport
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Type Ratings

Student Endorsements (Include dates)

Flight Time (Enter appropriate number of hours in each box)	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time	1,478	120	1,294	138	213	73	99	0	45	
Pilot in Command (PIC)	1,334	120	1,190	114	202	65	84		29	
Time as Instructor	530	3	521	7	72	10	3		1	
This Make/Model					18	0	0			
Last 90 Days	74	27	64	9	10	1	1		0	
Last 30 Days	19	2	19	0	0	0	1		0	
Last 24 Hours	2	0	2	0	0	0	0		0	

"FLIGHT CREWMEMBER 2" INFORMATION

"Flight Crewmember 2" Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident

☐ Pilot
 ☐ Co-Pilot
 ☐ Student Pilot
 ☐ Flight Instructor
 ☐ Check Pilot
 ☐ Flight Engineer
 ☐ Other Flight Crew

"Flight Crewmember 2" was pilot flying ☐ Yes ☐ No

"Flight Crewmember 2" Identification

First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____
 Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 Last Name: _____ Country: _____
 Age at time of Accident/Incident: _____ Date of Birth: _____ mm/dd/yyyy
 Certificate Number: _____

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

Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military
☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign
☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer

Principal Occupation

☐ Pilot
☐ Other
☐ Unknown

Medical Certificate

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

Medical Certificate Validity

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

Date of Last Medical

_____ mm/dd/yyyy

Medical Certificate Limitations

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

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

_____ mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: _____

Model: _____

Airplane Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

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

Other Aircraft Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

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

Instrument Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Airplane
☐ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

Instructor Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

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

Type Ratings

Student Endorsements (Include dates)

Flight Time (Enter appropriate number of hours in each box)	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time										
Pilot in Command (PIC)										
Time as Instructor										
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days										
Last 30 Days										
Last 24 Hours										

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		☐ 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		☐ 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	Age	
First Name: <u>Robert</u> City : <u>Rosamond</u> Middle Initial: _____ State: <u>CA</u> ZIP: <u>93560</u> Last Name: <u>Arduini</u> Country: <u>United States</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 If Under 5, ☐ 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 If Under 5, ☐ 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 If Under 5, ☐ 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 If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	

FLIGHT ITINERARY INFORMATION

Last Departure Point Airport ID: <u>KMHV</u> City: <u>Mojave</u> State: <u>CA</u> Country: <u>United States</u>	Time of Departure Time: <u>1100</u> Time Zone: <u>PST</u>	Destination Airport ID: <u>KMHV</u> City: <u>Mojave</u> State: <u>CA</u> Country: <u>United States</u>	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)

☐ 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: <u>3,300</u> ft msl
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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	☐ Company ☐ Military ☐ Internet ☐ None ☐ Unknown
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Weather Observation Facility

Facility ID: KMHV
 Observation Time: -
 Time Zone: PST
 Distance from Accident Site: 1.75 nm
 Direction from Accident Site: 78 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

Temperature: (C) or (F)

Dew Point: (C) or (F)

Altimeter Setting: in. Hg
or MB

Wind Direction

☒ Variable

-or-
Direction: degrees true

Wind Speed

☐ Calm
☒ Light and Variable

-or-
Speed: kts

Wind Gusts

☒ Not Gusting

-or-
Speed: kts

Visibility unrestricted 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	Type
☒ None	☒ N/A
☐ Trace	☐ Rime
☐ Light	☐ Clear
☐ Moderate	☐ Mixed
☐ Severe	☐ Unknown
☐ Unknown	

Icing Actual

Amount	Type
☒ None	☒ N/A
☐ Trace	☐ Rime
☐ Light	☐ Clear
☐ Moderate	☐ Mixed
☐ Severe	☐ Unknown
☐ Unknown	

Turbulence

Type (Check all that apply)	Severity
☒ 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:

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)*

The aircraft lost the main landing gear bow, nose landing gear casting, lower cowling, lower panel with comm antenna, and speed brake. Components in the engine compartment which were damaged after

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.

Day Overview:

I flew VariEze N88KL from its home airport Tehachapi Municipal (KTSP) to the Mojave Air and Space Port (KMHV) for operation in a formation flight clinic operating out of KMHV. The flight took place at approximately 0730 local and lasted .2 hours. My second flight of the day in N88KL consisted of a formation taxi to staggered formation takeoff and rejoin. Shortly after takeoff at approximately 1045 local from runway 26 at KMHV at ~ 500 ft AGL, I experienced rapid power loss and executed a forced landing in a field roughly 1 nm off the departure end of the runway. The aircraft came to a rest right side up approximately 650 ft past the point of initial touchdown having lost the main landing gear bow, nose landing gear casting, lower cowling, lower panel with comm antenna, and speed brake. After the landing, myself and Rob extricated ourselves from the aircraft.

Accident Flight:

I was number two in a two-ship formation originating from KMHV. The pre-flight briefing determined a southern working area would be utilized for the formation work, determined mission frequencies, established a series of maneuvers to be flown during the working portion of the flight, and reviewed hand and radio communications to be used between myself and the other aircraft. The callsign for the flight was ' Tiger Flight ', with Grumman Tiger N28703 as ' Tiger 1 ' and myself in VariEze N88KL as ' Tiger 2 '. I determined weight and C.G. was acceptable with knowledge of Rob ' s weight, Doug ' s weight, and gallons of gas left on board. My pre-flight check found fuel state was 14 gallons which equated to 2.5 hours of gas on board as found through the totalizer and visually in the tanks. I inspected the general condition of the airframe, and oil state was found at 4 quarts as measured with the dip stick. I got Rob into the backseat and proceeded with control stick clearance checks, speedbrake actuator arm clearance check, seatbelt fitting and operation, and provided him with some aircraft specifics before lifting the nose, putting down the main gear and getting in the front seat of N88KL.

After I turned on electrical master, I initiated an ICS check between back and front seats. I noted the startup was normal for N88KL, having utilized the accelerator pump on the carburetor for priming and requiring less than 5 blades until the engine turned over. I watched as oil pressure came up to ~40 psi in less than 10 seconds and checked fuel flow at approximately ½ gph. Both were normal indications for the aircraft post-start. I turned the single comm radio and alternator on for radio checks between flight aircraft on mission frequency 1 (133.95) before I pushed to KMHV CTAF (127.60). After I checked in with Tiger 1, I followed as number two in an element taxi from the transient ramp at KMHV abeam the airport terminal building to the intersection of runway 26 and taxiway A for departure to the southwest. I performed my normal pre-takeoff checks in N88KL, where I had no negative findings. The steps are listed below:

- Controls to full deflection (canard, aileron, rudder) with verification of proper movement
- Pitch trim to both stops with verification of proper movement and freedom of movement
- Verification of speed brake freedom of movement
- Engine instrument cluster check
- Airspeed and altimeter checks (altitude within 75 ft of KMHV airport elevation)
- Engine runup at 1700 rpm
 - o Magneto checks (both dropped between 25 and 50 rpm with no roughness)
 - o Carburetor heat check (seen through carb temp indicator)
 - o Idle check with carb heat on and off
- Canopy latch and secondary latch verified closed

The intersection of runway 26 and taxiway A provided me slightly more than 4,000 ft of useable runway for takeoff which was sufficient for the performance of N88KL at its flight weight. An element takeoff was executed with Tiger 1 (N28703) utilizing the southern half of runway 26 and myself, Tiger 2 (N88KL), utilizing the northern half of the runway. I held power against brakes while Tiger 1 departed, and released when Tiger 1 ' s liftoff could be seen. I felt normal performance and acceleration in N88KL during the takeoff roll, with little correction required to track the direction of the runway. I rotated at approximately 1,750 ft with liftoff at approximately 2,000 ft of runway used. These values aligned with normal performance of N88KL at the flight weight. When I deemed a positive climb was established at 70 KIAS, I retracted the nose gear, and began an acceleration to 80 KIAS for the climbing left turn rejoin with Tiger 1.

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

Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation

Cannot recommend due to unknown cause at this time.

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.)

Unknown at this time.

**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)

15 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

Forward seat unlatched canopy primary and secondary latches, and rear seat opened canopy. Rear seat exited first over the left side of the aircraft and front seat exited over the left side of the aircraft after him.

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.

Narrative (cont.)

I kept the lead aircraft in sight throughout the non-emergent portions of the flight. Rob called for a slight increase in turn to improve the closure on Tiger 1, which occurred at approximately 3,200 ft MSL. At my initiation of this turn, a rapid power loss occurred. I felt positive confirmation of engine power loss through aircraft deceleration and EMI noise of the alternator spooling down through low RPM. I initiated a scan for landing options and establish a gliding pitch attitude. I continued the left turn in an initial attempt to return to runway 08 at KMHV for a landing. When I gained sight of the airport environment, it was immediately clear it was not an option due to available energy. During this turn, I saw and felt a pitch oscillation indicative of high AoA in N88KL. I lowered the nose and reduced the bank angle as I explored the available area for alternate landing options. The field immediately under and to the east of my position was selected as the only tenable option due to the altitude I was currently at. I visually determined the eastern, southern, and northeastern portions of the field could not be used due to power lines and housing communities which I determined would be impacted during the projected glide and landing rollouts. I continued a left descending turn to place the aircraft as close to the middle of the field as energy would allow and on a northwesterly heading. I continued to control the aircraft to fly to the point which allowed for the smoothest terrain by appearance and allow the wings to be leveled before touchdown. When I determined the point at which we would touch down and saw that I had the energy to make it, I put the nose landing gear down. Simultaneous to my landing gear rolling down in the turn to landing Tiger 1 asked, "Tiger 2, are you ok?" to which I was only able to respond, "Negative" on the CTAF frequency. I made no further communications on the radio and only communicated away from the landing sight via cell-phone from that point forward. I estimate time from power loss to aircraft touchdown was 30 seconds. I touched down nose high (approximately 5 degrees nose up) and firmly with the brakes held to slow the aircraft to a stop as expeditiously as possible. Initial stages of the roll were smooth, clearly indicating bushes were being hit while on all landing gear. The soft sand and castering nose gear did not allow me to have control over the nose direction during the roll out. A large divot (a wash, or path of previously flowing water) was impacted during the roll. It is at this point that my control of the aircraft was wholly removed with the main landing gear sheering off and dropping the fuselage on its belly. I came to a rest on the aircraft's belly after multiple large impacts and deceleration through bushes in the field. The total distance traveled on the ground was approximately 650 ft. After coming to a rest, I turned the fuel selector from "Both" to "Off", turned off the electrical master switch, opened the primary canopy latch, and coordinated with Rob to get the secondary canopy latch undone and opened the canopy. Rob was the first out of the aircraft, turned off the magneto switch, and I followed out shortly thereafter.

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

Date of this Report

04/01/2022

mm/dd/yyyy

Name of Pilot/Operator: Douglas Robert Rybczynski

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.

WPR22LA133

Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office

AS-WPR

Name of Investigator

Eric M. Gutierrez

Date Report Received

4/3/2022