



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Nashville, TN	Accident Number:	DCA13CA106
Date & Time:	06/13/2013, 1040 CDT	Registration:	N995DL
Aircraft:	MCDONNELL DOUGLAS AIRCRAFT CO MD-88	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Ground collision	Injuries:	156 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 121: Air Carrier - Scheduled		

Analysis

With an expected 20 to 25 minute hold time before departure, the airplane was pushed back from the gate and ground clearance was given for the flight crew to taxi to a hold area to wait. While positioning in the hold area, the airplane's right wing impacted a light pole. The passengers were deplaned via air stairs and no injuries occurred. An examination of the right wing by maintenance personnel revealed that the right wing spar had sustained substantial damage. The Captain, who was at the controls, reported that he had not seen the light pole before impact. The First Officer reported looking up and seeing the light pole; however, he observed that the Captain was turning away from the pole before the impact. It was further reported that there was no pre impact mechanical malfunction or failure with the airplane's flight controls.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The flight crews failure to maintain clearance from the light pole while taxiing.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)
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Factual Information

History of Flight

Taxi	Ground collision (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	49
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Unknown	Last Medical Exam:	04/10/2013
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	10/25/2012
Flight Time:	10317 hours (Total, all aircraft), 6935 hours (Total, this make and model), 185 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Co-Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	48
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Unknown	Last Medical Exam:	11/06/2012
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	10/20/2012
Flight Time:	2765 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2765 hours (Total, this make and model), 217 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	MCDONNELL DOUGLAS AIRCRAFT CO	Registration:	N995DL
Model/Series:	MD-88	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Transport	Serial Number:	53362
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	156
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	06/13/2014, Continuous Airworthiness	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	161000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Turbo Fan
Airframe Total Time:	56640 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	P & W
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	JT8D-219
Registered Owner:	DELTA AIR LINES INC	Rated Power:	21700 lbs
Operator:	DELTA AIR LINES INC	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	Flag carrier (121)
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	DALA

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KBNA, 605 ft msl	Observation Time:	1053 CDT
Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles	Direction from Accident Site:	259°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 2800 ft agl	Temperature/Dew Point:	29° C / 22° C
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 3600 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	12 knots/ 22 knots, 260°	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	29.85 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	NASHVILLE, TN (BNA)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	ATLANTA, GA (ATL)	Type of Clearance:	Unknown
Departure Time:	1040 CDT	Type of Airspace:	Unknown

Airport Information

Airport:	Nashville International (KBNA)	Runway Surface Type:	N/A
Airport Elevation:	599 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Unknown
Runway Used:	N/A	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	7 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	149 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	156 None	Latitude, Longitude:	36.121389, -86.673611

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Timothy LeBaron	Adopted Date:	09/01/2015
Additional Participating Persons:	Kenneth G Pannell; FAA		
Publish Date:	09/01/2015		
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=87196		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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