



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Rock Springs, WY	Accident Number:	GAA18CA098
Date & Time:	01/10/2018, 1845 MST	Registration:	N561UP
Aircraft:	SWEARINGEN SA227	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Analysis

The pilot reported that, while taxiing with a tailwind, he realized that the airplane was moving too fast and that he then applied brakes and reverse engine thrust. He added that he attempted to turn the airplane but was unable to do so and that a strong crosswind "forced" the airplane to the left and off the airport parking ramp. Subsequently, the airplane struck a lamp post and came to rest.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

The automated weather observation system located at the airport reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was from 280° at 21 knots, gusting to 27 knots.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's failure to maintain directional control while taxiing in gusting tailwind conditions.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)
Environmental issues	Tailwind - Effect on operation Gusts - Effect on operation Fence/fence post - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Taxi-to runway	Other weather encounter Loss of control on ground Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Flight Instructor	Age:	63, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	11/01/2017
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	07/12/2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 6650 hours (Total, all aircraft), 360 hours (Total, this make and model), 4985 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 96 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 28 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	SWEARINGEN	Registration:	N561UP
Model/Series:	SA227 AT	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1983	Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	AT-561
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	01/08/2018, Continuous Airworthiness	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	14500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Turbo Prop
Airframe Total Time:	23398.8 Hours at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	AIRESEARCH
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	TPE331 SERIES
Registered Owner:	UAS TRANSERVICES, INC.	Rated Power:	hp
Operator:	Ameriflight, LLC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand Air Taxi (135)

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KRKS, 6745 ft msl	Observation Time:	0154 UTC
Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles	Direction from Accident Site:	121°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 4000 ft agl	Temperature/Dew Point:	-3° C / -11° C
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	21 knots/ 27 knots, 280°	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	29.83 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	SALT LAKE CITY, UT (SLC)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	Rock Springs, WY (RKS)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	0752 MST	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	ROCK SPRINGS-SWEETWATER COUNTY (RKS)	Runway Surface Type:	N/A
Airport Elevation:	6764 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:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	41.598889, -109.063889 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Eric A Swenson	Adopted Date:	03/27/2018
Additional Participating Persons:	Arza Caudill; FAA; Denver, CO		
Publish Date:	03/27/2018		
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=96592		

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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