National Transportation Safety Board
PRELIMINARY REPORT
AVIATION

NTSB ID: WPR14LA185 Most Critical Injury: Minor

Occurrence Date: 05/03/2014 Investigated By: NTSB

 Nearest City/Place
 State
 Zip Code
 Local Time
 Time Zone

 Bluffdale
 UT
 2000
 MDT

Occurrence Type: Accident

Aircraft Information

Location/Time

Registration Number | Aircraft Manufacturer | Model/Series Number

N177MF 177MF LLC PITTS MODEL 12

Type of Aircraft: Airplane

Amateur Built Aircraft?

Injury Summary:

Fatal

Serious

Minor

2

None

Revenue Sightseeing Flight: No Air Medical Transport Flight: No

Narrative

Brief narrative statement of facts, conditions and circumstances pertinent to the accident/incident:

*** Note: NTSB investigators may not have traveled in support of this investigation and used data provided by various sources to prepare this aircraft accident report. ***

On May 3, 2014, about 2000 mountain daylight time, a Pitts 12, N177MA, was substantially damaged in an off-airport landing near Bluffdale, Utah. The pilot/owner and his passenger received minor injuries. The personal flight was conducted under the provisions of Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no FAA flight plan was filed for the flight.

According to the pilot, he had recently purchased the airplane, and he and his wife planned to fly it from the purchase location in Washington state to their home town of Farmington, New Mexico. The first leg was uneventful, and terminated in a fuel stop at Columbia Gorge (DLS), where the pilot topped off the fuel tank. The next planned fuel stop was in the vicinity of Provo, Utah, and the pilot conducted the cruise portion at an altitude of 9,500 feet above mean sea level (msl). When the airplane was about 30 miles from Provo, the pilot began a gradual descent, and shortly thereafter, the engine quit. He switched from the main tank to the auxiliary tank and attempted to restart the engine, without success. The pilot then turned his attention to selecting an off-airport landing site, located an open field and turned off all electrical items. The airplane landed hard, and "flipped over on its back." The pilot exited, assisted his wife with her exit, and both walked away from the airplane because they smelled fuel. A passer-by arrived within about 15 minutes, and the local authorities were notified of the accident. The airplane was recovered to a secure location 2 days after the accident.

The pilot held a private pilot certificate with airplane single engine, multiengine land, rotorcraft-helicopter and instrument airplane ratings. His most recent Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) third-class medical certificate was issued in February 2013, and his most recent flight review was completed in May 2013. FAA information indicated that the airplane was manufactured in 2009, and was equipped with a Vendenyev M14 series radial engine.

The 1955 automated weather observation at Provo Municipal airport (PVU), Provo, Utah, located about 20 miles south southeast of the accident site, included winds from 190 degrees at 14 knots, visibility 15 miles, a broken cloud layer at 14,000 feet, temperature 23 degrees C, dew point 2 degrees C, and an altimeter setting of 29.84 inches of mercury.

Updated on May 12 2014 12:30PM

TRANSO
National Transportation Safety Board
PRELIMINARY REPORT
ÁVIATION

NTSB ID: WPR14LA185

PRELIMINARY REPORT AYIATION		Occurrence Date: 05/03/2014									
		Occurrence Type: Accident									
Other Aircraft Involved							•				
	Aircraft Manufacturer						Model/Series Number				
Accident Information											
Aircraft Damage: Substantial Accid				dent Occurred During:							
Crew Nam	е				Certificate No.				Injury		
Pilot							M	linor			
2											
3											
4											
5											
6											
Operator Information											
Name J Scott Tubb	Operator D				esignator Code Doing Business As						
Street Address	1 '				nington				State NM	Zip Code	
-Type of Certificate(s) Held: None											
Air Carrier Operating Certificate(s):											
Operating Certificate:	0	Operator Certificate:									
Regulation Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: Genera	al Aviatio	n	-							
Type of Flight Operations Conducted	: Personal										
Flight Plan/Itinerary											
Type of Flight Plan Filed:											
Last Departure Point	ast Departure Point					State Airport Id					
Bluffdale					UT						
Destination					State	Airport	Identifier				
Provo						PVU					
Weather Information											
Investigator's Source:				Faci	lity ID: PVU	Observation Time (Local): 1955					
Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition:					Ft. A						
Lowest Ceiling: Broken		14000 F	t. AGL	V	isibility:	15	SM	Altim	neter: 2	9.84	"Hg
PRELIMINARY INFORMATION - SUBJECT TO CHANGE											

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AVIATION			Occurrence Type: Accident						
Weather Information (Continued from page 2)									
Temperature: 23 °C	Dew Point:	2°C	C Wind Direction: 190						
Wind Speed: 14 Kts.	Gusts: K	íts.	Weathe	Veather Conditions at Accident Site:					
Administration Data									
Notification From				Date					
FAA District Office/Coordinator FAA				Investigator-In-Charge (IIC)					
David Rodda				Michael C. Huhn					