

October 13, 2022, ComancheZOOM

Topic: N9456P Accident - Lessons to be Learned

On April 9, 2018, a Comanche 260 with six occupants crashed on takeoff near Scottsdale AZ Airport (KSDL) with no survivors.

In this Zoom we will go over the chain of steps/decisions that lead up to the outcome of this flight, and the lessons we can learn from this review of the NTSB report.

You can read the NTSB report at [aviation-safety.net/wikibase/209043](https://www.aviation-safety.net/wikibase/209043).

We were unable to provide WINGS credit for this Zoom due to time constraints.

There was a great deal of discussion of the two NTSB identified contributing factors – aircraft overweight and loading with aft center of gravity. A third factor brought up was the ATP pilots' lack of familiarity with the accident aircraft. This pilot flew the Comanche from Las Vegas North to Scottsdale to meet the passengers as his first time in the lightly loaded Comanche. He then loaded the five passengers, with their light bags in their laps, and proceeded to try to take off, using over 3000 feet of runway before lifting off. The aircraft never achieved stable flight and turned left, seemingly back toward the airport, and entered an apparent stall/spin path into a golf course.

There was much discussion regarding a weight and balance calculation for Comanches and how and when to do that. This may become the subject of a continuation of this ComancheZOOM in the near future. There are many quality tips in the Chat text.

To hear/see the recordings click on a link from the list below.

- <http://meetings.northeastcomanche.org/zoom/2022-10-13/video.mp4>
- <http://meetings.northeastcomanche.org/zoom/2022-10-13/audio.m4a>

To read the Chat text click on this link.

- <http://meetings.northeastcomanche.org/zoom/2022-09-01/chat.txt>

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