Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Apalachicola, Florida	**Accident Number:**	ERA15CA093
Date & Time:	January 1, 2015, 16:30 Local	**Registration:**	N657MC
Aircraft:	Piper PA-46-350P	**Aircraft Damage:**	Substantial
Defining Event:	Ground collision	**Injuries:**	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

After landing, the pilot taxied to the fixed base operator to park. As he approached the parking ramp, a lineman stood in front of a tie-down spot and raised both hands in the air signaling to the pilot where to park. The spot was next to a parked jet. The pilot said that while taxing to the parking spot he was concentrating on staying clear of the jet and did not see a light pole located at the edge of the ramp. The right wing struck the pole resulting in structural damage to the wing.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
The pilot's inadequate visual lookout while taxiing, which resulted in the airplane striking a pole.

Findings

Personnel issues	Monitoring environment - Pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

Taxi	Ground collision (Defining event)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	**Age:**	57
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	**Seat Occupied:**	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	**Restraint Used:**	Unknown
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	**Second Pilot Present:**	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	**Toxicology Performed:**	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	**Last FAA Medical Exam:**	December 16, 2013
Occupational Pilot:	No	**Last Flight Review or Equivalent:**	July 28, 2014
Flight Time:	2633 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1545 hours (Total, this make and model), 2633 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 35 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 17 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	**Registration:**	N657MC
Model/Series:	PA-46-350P	**Aircraft Category:**	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1988	**Amateur Built:**	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	**Serial Number:**	4622007
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	**Seats:**	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		**Certified Max Gross Wt.:**	4299 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		**Engines:**	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		**Engine Manufacturer:**	LYCOMING
ELT:		**Engine Model/Series:**	TI0-540 SER
Registered Owner:	CHICOLA MONTY V	**Rated Power:**	310 Horsepower
Operator:	CHICOLA MONTY V	**Operating Certificate(s) Held:**	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	**Condition of Light:**	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	AAF,50 ft msl	**Distance from Accident Site:**	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	15:00 Local	**Direction from Accident Site:**	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	**Visibility**	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	**Visibility (RVR):**	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	**Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:**	/ None
Wind Direction:	140°	**Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:**	/
Altimeter Setting:		**Temperature/Dew Point:**	10°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Pensacola, FL (PNS)	**Type of Flight Plan Filed:**	IFR
Destination:	Apalachicola, FL (AAF)	**Type of Clearance:**	IFR
Departure Time:	13:30 Local	**Type of Airspace:**	Unknown

Airport Information

Airport:	APALACHICOLA REGIONAL AAF	**Runway Surface Type:**	
Airport Elevation:	20 ft msl	**Runway Surface Condition:**	Dry
Runway Used:		**IFR Approach:**	None
Runway Length/Width:		**VFR Approach/Landing:**	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	**Aircraft Damage:**	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	**Aircraft Fire:**	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	**Aircraft Explosion:**	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	**Latitude, Longitude:**	29.7275,-85.025833(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Yeager, Leah
Additional Participating Persons:	
Original Publish Date:	June 9, 2015
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=90576

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