



# Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

<b>Location:</b>	Columbus, NE	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CEN24LA332
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	September 2, 2024, 12:15 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N223CL
<b>Aircraft:</b>	APEX CROSS-5X	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

On September 2, 2024, about 1215 central standard time, an Apex Cross-5X weight shift trike, N223CL, was substantially damaged when it was involved in an accident near Columbus, Nebraska. The pilot sustained fatal injuries. The trike was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* part 91 personal flight.

Witnesses saw the trike takeoff from a rural field near the pilot’s residence. Another pilot was flying another trike nearby and was providing guidance via radio to the accident pilot. He witnessed the accident trike become inverted and impact the garage of a residence.

The trike wreckage was transported to a secure municipal facility for examination. According to the previous owner, the pilot just purchased the trike on August 15, 2024. According to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) records, the pilot did not have any pilot certificates or ratings.

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	APEX	<b>Registration:</b>	N223CL
<b>Model/Series:</b>	CROSS-5X	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Weight-shift
<b>Amateur Built:</b>			
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>			

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	VMC	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KOLU,1447 ft msl	<b>Observation Time:</b>	11:56 Local
<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	22 Nautical Miles	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	22°C /11°C
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	11 knots / , 160°
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility:</b>	10 miles
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.32 inches Hg	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Columbus, NE	<b>Destination:</b>	Columbus, NE

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	41.159,-97.6385 (est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Lemishko, Alexander
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Scott Olson; FAA FSDO ; Lincoln, NE
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class 3</a>
<b>Note:</b>	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.