

		NTSB ID: ANC06LA064		Aircraft Registration Number: N688JK	
		Occurrence Date: 05/29/2006		Most Critical Injury: None	
		Occurrence Type: Accident		Investigated By: NTSB	
Location/Time					
Nearest City/Place Skwentna		State AK	Zip Code 99667	Local Time 1920	Time Zone ADT
Airport Proximity: Off Airport/Airstrip		Distance From Landing Facility:			
Aircraft Information Summary					
Aircraft Manufacturer Robinson		Model/Series R44		Type of Aircraft Helicopter	
Revenue Sightseeing Flight: No			Air Medical Transport Flight: No		
Narrative					
<p>Brief narrative statement of facts, conditions and circumstances pertinent to the accident/incident:</p> <p>On May 29, 2006, about 1920 Alaska daylight time, a skid-equipped Robinson R44 helicopter, N688JK, operated by Ace Flyers, dba JayHawk Air, Anchorage, Alaska, had a loss of tail rotor effectiveness during an emergency landing, and sustained substantial damage when it collided with terrain, about 17 miles north-northwest of Skwentna, Alaska. The commercial certificated pilot and the sole passenger reported no injuries. The local flight was operating in day visual meteorological conditions as an on-demand, Title 14, CFR Part 135 air taxi flight when the accident occurred.</p> <p>During a telephone conversation with the NTSB investigator-in-charge (IIC) on May 30, the pilot reported that he was repositioning the passenger and a wire mesh cage from a remote drilling site near Sable Creek to a site nearby on the Kahiltna River. The pilot related that the wire cage was slung underneath the helicopter on a line about 18 feet long. He stated that about a minute after liftoff from the 1,200 feet msl site, following the transition to cruise flight, he looked outside the helicopter to try and see how the load was positioned. He said he could not visually acquire the load, and he suddenly heard an unusual noise and felt a shudder/vibration. He immediately jettisoned the load, and sought an emergency landing site close by. The landing site was a clear area in alder brush, on about a 15 degree slope. The pilot reported that the helicopter continued to vibrate and make unusual sounds as he came to a 2 foot hover over the landing site. When he increased the main rotor pitch with the collective control, the pilot said he stepped on the tail rotor control pedals, but there was "no pedal" and no response from the tail rotor. The helicopter quickly started to rotate, and immediately rolled onto its side as it touched the ground. The pilot stated that it was likely that the load on the tether line somehow struck or interfered with the tail rotor, although he could not see any damage to the tail rotor after landing.</p> <p>In his written statement to the NTSB, the pilot wrote in the section titled: Recommendation (How Could This Accident Have Been Prevented), "Pilot Error--I allowed a light load to catch the tip of the tail rotors."</p>					
FACTUAL REPORT - AVIATION					
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 <b>National Transportation Safety Board</b> <b>FACTUAL REPORT</b> <b>AVIATION</b>		NTSB ID: ANC06LA064			
		Occurrence Date: 05/29/2006			
		Occurrence Type: Accident			
<b>Landing Facility/Approach Information</b>					
Airport Name	Airport ID:	Airport Elevation Ft. MSL	Runway Used	Runway Length	Runway Width
Runway Surface Type: Unknown					
Runway Surface Condition: Unknown					
Approach/Arrival Flown: Unknown					
VFR Approach/Landing: Forced Landing					
<b>Aircraft Information</b>					
Aircraft Manufacturer Robinson		Model/Series R44		Serial Number 45012	
Airworthiness Certificate(s): Normal					
Landing Gear Type: Skid					
Amateur Built Acft? No	Number of Seats: 4	Certified Max Gross Wt.	2500 LBS	Number of Engines: 1	
Engine Type: Reciprocating	Engine Manufacturer: Lycoming	Model/Series: IO-540AE4/5	Rated Power: 205 HP		
- Aircraft Inspection Information					
Type of Last Inspection Unknown	Date of Last Inspection	Time Since Last Inspection Hours	Airframe Total Time Hours		
- Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) Information					
ELT Installed?/Type Yes /	ELT Operated? Yes	ELT Aided in Locating Accident Site? Yes			
<b>Owner/Operator Information</b>					
Registered Aircraft Owner Ace Flyers		Street Address 1842 Merrill Field Drive			
		City Anchorage	State AK	Zip Code 99501	
Operator of Aircraft Ace Flyers		Street Address 1842 Merrill Field Drive			
		City Anchorage	State AK	Zip Code 99501	
Operator Does Business As: JayHawk Air			Operator Designator Code:		
- Type of U.S. Certificate(s) Held:					
Air Carrier Operating Certificate(s): On-demand Air Taxi					
Operating Certificate:			Operator Certificate: Aircraft External Load		
Regulation Flight Conducted Under: Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter					
Type of Flight Operation Conducted: Non-scheduled; Domestic; Passenger Only					

 <p><b>National Transportation Safety Board</b> <b>FACTUAL REPORT</b> <b>AVIATION</b></p>	NTSB ID: ANC06LA064
	Occurrence Date: 05/29/2006
	Occurrence Type: Accident

**First Pilot Information**

Name On File	City On File	State On File	Date of Birth On File	Age 61
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Sex: M	Seat Occupied: Right	Occupational Pilot?	Certificate Number: On File
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Certificate(s): Commercial

Airplane Rating(s): Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea

Rotorcraft/Glider/LTA: Helicopter

Instrument Rating(s): None

Instructor Rating(s): None

Current Biennial Flight Review? 05/2006

Medical Cert.: Class 2	Medical Cert. Status: With Waivers/Limitations	Date of Last Medical Exam: 01/2006
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- Flight Time Matrix	All A/C	This Make and Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multi-Engine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time	8500	50	200	0	800			8250		
Pilot In Command(PIC)	8440									
Instructor										
Instruction Received										
Last 90 Days	100									
Last 30 Days	50									
Last 24 Hours	8									

Seatbelt Used? Yes	Shoulder Harness Used? Yes	Toxicology Performed? No	Second Pilot? No
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**Flight Plan/Itinerary**

Type of Flight Plan Filed: Company VFR

Departure Point Same as Accident/Incident Location	State	Airport Identifier	Departure Time	Time Zone ADT
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Destination Local Flight	State	Airport Identifier	
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Type of Clearance: None

Type of Airspace:

**Weather Information**

Source of Wx Information:

Unknown

 <p><b>National Transportation Safety Board</b> <b>FACTUAL REPORT</b> <b>AVIATION</b></p>	NTSB ID: ANC06LA064
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	Occurrence Type: Accident

<b>Weather Information</b>					
WOF ID	Observation Time	Time Zone	WOF Elevation Ft. MSL	WOF Distance From Accident Site NM	Direction From Accident Site Deg. Mag.
Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition: Clear			Ft. AGL	Condition of Light: Day	
Lowest Ceiling: None		Ft. AGL	Visibility: 100 SM	Altimeter: "Hg	
Temperature: 18 °C	Dew Point: °C	Weather Conditions at Accident Site: Visual Conditions			
Wind Direction:		Wind Speed: Calm		Wind Gusts:	
Visibility (RVR): Ft.		Visibility (RVV) SM			
Precip and/or Obscuration: No Obscuration; No Precipitation					

<b>Accident Information</b>		
Aircraft Damage: Substantial	Aircraft Fire: None	Aircraft Explosion: None

- Injury Summary Matrix	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None	TOTAL
First Pilot				1	1
Second Pilot					
Student Pilot					
Flight Instructor					
Check Pilot					
Flight Engineer					
Cabin Attendants					
Other Crew					
Passengers				1	1
- TOTAL ABOARD -				2	2
Other Ground					
- GRAND TOTAL -				2	2

National Transportation Safety Board

**FACTUAL REPORT**

**AVIATION**



NTSB ID: ANC06LA064

Occurrence Date: 05/29/2006

Occurrence Type: Accident

Administrative Information

Investigator-In-Charge (IIC)

James D. La Belle

Additional Persons Participating in This Accident/Incident Investigation:

Rudee Scott

FAA, Anchorage Flight Standards District Office

Anchorage, AK