

Surviving spaceship pilot described as 'alert'

November 2 2014

The injured test pilot who survived the destruction of Virgin Galactic's prototype space tourism rocket is described as alert and talking with his family and doctors.

Word about the condition of Peter Siebold came Saturday in a statement from his employer, Scale Composites, the Mojave, California, company developing SpaceShipTwo for Virgin Galactic.

Scaled Composites says Siebold, its director of flight operations, was serving as pilot during Friday's ill-fated test flight high over the Mojave Desert.

Co-pilot Michael Alsbury was killed.

The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating the cause of the accident.

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Citation: Surviving spaceship pilot described as 'alert' (2014, November 2) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2014-11-surviving-spaceship.html>

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