



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	ST. CLAIR SHORE, MI	Accident Number:	CHI99FA227
Date & Time:	04/01/1999, 1230 EST	Registration:	N441CB
Aircraft:	Smith, Ted Aerostar AEROSTAR 601P	Injuries:	2 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Analysis

The airplane took off from Port Huron, Michigan, on April 1, 1999, at 1130 est. The airplane was scheduled to arrive in Freemont, Ohio. An employee of the pilot's company said that the pilot was going to meet a customer there. At 1230 est, the customer called the company inquiring about the pilot. The employee said that the pilot 'would have taken the shortest route, over [Lake] St. Clair, Ontario [Province], and [Lake] Erie,' to get to Freemont, Ohio. An ALNOT was issued at 1803 est. Search and rescue operations were conducted by the U. S. Coast Guard, Civil Air Patrol, and the Canadian Search and Rescue Center. The search was suspended on April 10, 1999, at 2125 est. The passenger's body was discovered on May 1, 1999, in the Lake St. Clair shipping channel, approximately 6.9 miles east of St. Clair Shores, Michigan. On July 2, 1999, the pilot's body was found in Lake St. Clair. Parts of the airplane identified from the make and model of aircraft were recovered with the bodies.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: Undetermined as the aircraft was not recovered.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Foreign; Private	Age:	59
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	1550 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Smith, Ted Aerostar	Registration:	N441CB
Model/Series:	AEROSTAR 601P AEROSTAR 6	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Operator:	MANFRED W. ENGLER	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540-AA1A5
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	DTW, 633 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 3900 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	6 knots / , 190°
Temperature:	15° C	Visibility	7 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	PORT HURON, MI (PHN)	Destination:	FREEMONT, OH (14G)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	Unknown
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	Unknown
Latitude, Longitude:			

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	DAVID C BOWLING	Adopted Date:	01/18/2001
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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