



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	PORT ASHTON, AK	Accident Number:	ANC97LA003
Date & Time:	10/02/1996, 1830 AKD	Registration:	N2821P
Aircraft:	Piper PA-22	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported he was attempting to take off from an off-airport site on a remote island. The takeoff area was surrounded by trees and brush, and the pilot said there was a right, quartering headwind from the northwest which he estimated as 10 to 15 knots, with higher gusts. Shortly after lift-off, the pilot said he lost control of the airplane and collided with adjoining brush. He said he was unaware if the wind suddenly quit, or if he was blown into the brush by a wind gust.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate compensation for the gusty crosswind conditions. Factors associated with the accident were the crosswind and wind gusts.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CROSSWIND
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - GUSTS

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

3. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH VEGETATION

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	55
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	1920 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1860 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N2821P
Model/Series:	PA-22 PA-22	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	WINTHROP R. DELANCEY	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Dusk
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	12 knots / 20 knots, 315°
Temperature:	11° C	Visibility	50 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	ANCHORAGE, AK (MRI)	Destination:	, AK (MRI)

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
Latitude, Longitude:			

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JAMES D LABELLE	Adopted Date:	08/25/1997
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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