



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	LAKE CITY, MI	Accident Number:	CHI98LA002
Date & Time:	10/01/1997, 1830 EDT	Registration:	N19006
Aircraft:	Mikowski CHALLENGER II S	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot departed the airport for a short local flight. The pilot stated he throttled back and could no longer maintain control of the aircraft. He said he tried to increase the power, but the engine quit. He descended in a left bank into trees. The previous day the pilot added a door kit to the aircraft. The manufacturer of the kit recommends adding a rudder trim tab to the aircraft. No trim tab was found. Examination revealed that the fuel in the tank had 'excessive oil to fuel ratio.' The engine run unsuccessful until the spark plugs were changed.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the improper oil to gas mixture in the fuel during refueling and the pilot did not follow the written instructions from the kit manufacturer. Factors contributing to the accident were the pilot could not maintain directional control and the low altitude.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (F) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) INSTRUCTIONS, WRITTEN/VERBAL - NOT FOLLOWED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

3. (C) FLUID, FUEL - IMPROPER
4. (F) ALTITUDE/CLEARANCE - LOW - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (C) REFUELING - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

6. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Occurrence #4: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	70
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	135 hours (Total, all aircraft), 11 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Mikowski	Registration:	N19006
Model/Series:	CHALLENGER II S CHALLENGER	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	DALE JUNIOR SOLEM	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	521
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	CAD, 1307 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	4 knots / , 310°
Temperature:	8°C	Visibility	7 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	(Y91)	Destination:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:			

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): TODD J CARLSON Adopted Date: 02/28/2000

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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