



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	WEST JORDAN, UT	Accident Number:	FTW98FA384
Date & Time:	09/02/1998, 2030 MDT	Registration:	N8232B
Aircraft:	Cessna 172	Injuries:	2 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

A witness riding on his dirt motorcycle parallel to the powerlines saw two bright flashes and heard a loud bang from behind. The airplane crashed 50 to 75 feet in front of him. Other witnesses reported observing a flash, hearing a loud noise, and observing the airplane descending vertically towards the ground. The airplane had struck the top static line on a transmission tower, severing the right wing and empennage. The transmission tower is about 100 feet agl. Airport traffic pattern altitude is 800 feet agl. The accident occurred in visual meteorological conditions, during the hours of darkness, about 2 miles west of the airport. The transmission lines run parallel to the runway.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain proper airport traffic pattern altitude. Factors were night lighting conditions and the unseen static line.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - DOWNWIND

- Findings
1. (F) OBJECT - WIRE,STATIC
 2. (C) PROPER ALTITUDE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
 3. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - NIGHT
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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	59
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	336 hours (Total, all aircraft), 330 hours (Total, this make and model), 303 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N8232B
Model/Series:	172 172	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	HOOSHANG SHABESTARI	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-300-A
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	U42, 4603 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots / , 300°
Temperature:	26° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	WEST JORDAN, UT (U42)	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	SALT LAKE CITY MUNI 2 (U42)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	34	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	5860 ft / 100 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	ARNOLD W SCOTT	Adopted Date:	02/16/2001
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident docket 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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