



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	WAMPUM, PA	Accident Number:	BFO93LA080
Date & Time:	05/01/1993, 1801 EDT	Registration:	NONE
Aircraft:	MCMILLIN FISHER 404	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

ABOUT 45 SECONDS AFTER TAKEOFF, THE AIRPLANE'S ENGINE LOST TOTAL POWER. THE PILOT MADE A FORCED LANDING, AND DURING THE APPROACH, THE AIRPLANE IMPACTED A TREE. POST ACCIDENT EXAMINATION OF THE AIRPLANE REVEALED THAT A PLASTIC FUEL LINE HAD BEEN SAFETY WIRED AND THE WIRE WAS OVER TORQUED, CAUSING THE FUEL LINE TO SPLIT. THERE WAS EVIDENCE THAT DURING INITIAL CLIMB FROM TAKE OFF, AIR ENTERED THE FUEL LINE, STARVING THE ENGINE OF FUEL. THE PILOT WAS OPERATING THE AIRPLANE UNDER 14 CFR PART 103 AS AN ULTRALIGHT AND DID NOT HOLD ANY FAA CERTIFICATES. THE POST ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REVEALED THE AIRCRAFT WEIGHED OVER THE WEIGHT LIMITATION OF 254 POUNDS AS IMPOSED BY 14 CFR PART 103; THEREFORE, IT WAS DESIGNATED AN AIRPLANE.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE OVERTORQUE OF A SAFETY WIRE ON A PLASTIC FUEL LINE, CAUSING THE LINE TO SPLIT.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - MECH FAILURE/MALF
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) FUEL SYSTEM,LINE FITTING - OVERTORQUE
2. (C) MAINTENANCE,INSTALLATION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. FUEL SYSTEM,LINE - CRACKED
4. FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings

5. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	None	Age:	
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:			

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	MCMILLIN	Registration:	NONE
Model/Series:	FISHER 404 FISHER 404	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	JAMES MCMILLIN	Engine Manufacturer:	ROTAX
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	532
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:	YNG, 1 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	10 knots / , 40°
Temperature:	22° C	Visibility	25 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Destination:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	MARGARET B NAPOLITAN	Adopted Date:	10/13/1993
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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