



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

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|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| <b>Location:</b>               | EUREKA, AK                        | <b>Accident Number:</b> | ANC93LA001 |
| <b>Date &amp; Time:</b>        | 10/01/1992, 1630 AKD              | <b>Registration:</b>    | N4392C     |
| <b>Aircraft:</b>               | CHAMPION 7EC                      | <b>Injuries:</b>        | 1 None     |
| <b>Flight Conducted Under:</b> | Part 91: General Aviation - Ferry |                         |            |

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## Analysis

A FERRY PILOT AND THE PURCHASER OF THE AIRPLANE ARRIVED TO ACCEPT IT FROM THE SELLER AND FOUND THE ENGINE ALREADY RUNNING. THE AIRCRAFT HAD SAT OUTDOORS WITH EMPTY FUEL TANKS FOR 3 MOS. THE ENGINE REPORTEDLY BACKFIRED SEVERAL TIMES, AND QUIT ONCE, DURING RUNUP. THERE WAS REPORTEDLY NO INSPECTION TO DETERMINE THE SOURCE OF ENGINE ROUGHNESS. THE SELLER REPORTEDLY TOLD THE BUYER THAT THE ENGINE IS TYPICALLY 'COLD STARTING.' THE FERRY PILOT THEN TOOK OFF AND EXPERIENCED AN ABRUPT POWER LOSS AT 150 FT, AND THE AIRPLANE CRASHED DURING THE FORCED LANDING. THE PILOT STATED THAT THE TEMPERATURE AT THE TIME OF TAKEOFF WAS 'RIGHT AT FREEZING.'

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT-IN COMMAND'S INADEQUATE PREFLIGHT INSPECTION WHICH RESULTED IN A POWER LOSS DUE TO ICE IN THE FUEL SYSTEM.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

### Findings

1. (C) FUEL SYSTEM - ICE
2. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

## Pilot Information

|                                  |  |                              |      |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|------|
| <b>Certificate:</b>              | Private  | <b>Age:</b>                  | 48   |
| <b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>       | Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea  | <b>Instrument Rating(s):</b> | None |
| <b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b> | None   | <b>Instructor Rating(s):</b> | None |
| <b>Flight Time:</b>              | 1454 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1 hours (Total, this make and model), 1399 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 87 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 27 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) |                              |      |

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

|                                       |                                   |                             |                 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Aircraft Make:</b>                 | CHAMPION                          | <b>Registration:</b>        | N4392C          |
| <b>Model/Series:</b>                  | 7EC 7EC                           | <b>Engines:</b>             | 1 Reciprocating |
| <b>Operator:</b>                      |                                   | <b>Engine Manufacturer:</b> | CONTINENTAL     |
| <b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b> | None                              | <b>Engine Model/Series:</b> | C-90            |
| <b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>        | Part 91: General Aviation - Ferry |                             |                 |

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

|   |                   |                                     |                           |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>     | Visual Conditions | <b>Condition of Light:</b>          | Day                       |
| <b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b> | , 0 ft msl        | <b>Weather Information Source:</b>  | Pilot                     |
| <b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>                  | None / 0 ft agl   | <b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b> | 5 knots / , 45°           |
| <b>Temperature:</b>                     | 1° C              | <b>Visibility</b>                   | 0 Miles                   |
| <b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>   |                   |                                     |                           |
| <b>Departure Point:</b>                 |                   | <b>Destination:</b>                 | MANLEY HOT SPGS, AK (MLY) |

## Airport Information

|                             |                |                                  |            |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Airport:</b>             | PRIVATE STRIP  | <b>Runway Surface Type:</b>      | Dirt       |
| <b>Runway Used:</b>         | 36             | <b>Runway Surface Condition:</b> | Dry; Rough |
| <b>Runway Length/Width:</b> | 700 ft / 25 ft |                                  |            |

## Wreckage and Impact Information

|                             |        |                            |             |
|-----------------------------|--------|----------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Crew Injuries:</b>       | 1 None | <b>Aircraft Damage:</b>    | Substantial |
| <b>Passenger Injuries:</b>  | N/A    | <b>Aircraft Fire:</b>      | Unknown     |
| <b>Ground Injuries:</b>     | N/A    | <b>Aircraft Explosion:</b> | Unknown     |
| <b>Latitude, Longitude:</b> |        |                            |             |

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): DOUGLAS R HERLIHY      Adopted Date: 12/09/1993

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](mailto: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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