



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	GLENNALLEN, AK	Accident Number:	ANC99LA068
Date & Time:	06/01/1999, 1800 AKD	Registration:	N1929T
Aircraft:	Robinson R22	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Analysis

The certificated commercial helicopter pilot reported that during a northerly departure from atop a 4,200 feet msl mountain, the rotor rpm dropped, and the low rotor warning horn sounded. He said that in an attempt to regain rotor rpm and arrest the decent, he rolled the throttle to the high position, increased collective pitch, and lowered the nose to gain airspeed. He said that the rotor rpm continued to decay, the helicopter impacted uneven terrain, and rolled over. The pilot stated: 'I just got into a downdraft on takeoff.' He added that there were no preaccident mechanical anomalies with the helicopter. The helicopter sustained substantial damage to the rotor system, and fuselage.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain rotor RPM during takeoff. Factors associated with the accident were a downdraft, and uneven terrain.

Findings

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

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - DOWNDRAFT
2. (C) ROTOR RPM - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF

Findings

3. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - ROUGH/UNEVEN

Occurrence #3: ROLL OVER
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	38
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	Helicopter
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	Helicopter
Flight Time:	2373 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1806 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Robinson	Registration:	N1929T
Model/Series:	R22 R22	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	JOSH JOHNSON	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand Air Taxi (135)	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-B2C
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 10000 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots / , 300°
Temperature:	9° C	Visibility	50 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	, AK (3Z5)	Destination:	

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):	CLINTON O JOHNSON	Adopted Date:	06/22/2000
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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