



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	CORDEVILLE, SC	Accident Number:	ATL00FA021
Date & Time:	01/03/2000, 2130 EST	Registration:	N5703P
Aircraft:	Piper PA-24-180	Injuries:	2 Fatal, 1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

Approximately five hours and fifteen minutes into the flight, the pilot radioed Approach Control and requested landing. Minutes after the initial radio contact, the pilot reported that the airplane had run out of fuel. The pilot was issued radar vectors to the nearest airport. Seconds later, radio and radar contact was lost. Within about two minutes an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) signal was reported by another airplane flying in the vicinity of the downed airplane. The accident airplane was located by the ground search operation the morning following the accident. Examination of the airframe also failed to disclose a mechanical malfunction or the failure of related component assemblies. Approximately 1/2 gallon of fuel was recovered from the right fuel tank. The left fuel tank was ruptured. The engine operated up to 1700 rpm during the functional engine check.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate inflight planning that resulted in fuel exhaustion and the subsequent loss of engine power.

Findings

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

Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
2. (C) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

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

Findings

3. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Commercial; Flight Engineer	Age:	57
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	16000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 850 hours (Total, this make and model), 40 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N5703P
Model/Series:	PA-24-180 PA-24-180	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	WILLIAM T. HAUPT	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-360-A1A
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:	CHS, 46 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots / , 150°
Temperature:	15°C	Visibility	5 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	PRINCETON, NJ (39N)	Destination:	SAVANNAH, GA (SAV)

Airport Information

Airport:	MONCKS CORNER AIRPORT (50J)	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Runway Used:	21	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	6000 ft / 150 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): PHILLIP POWELL

Adopted Date: 04/19/2001

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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