



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	CORNING, AR	Accident Number:	FTW00LA067
Date & Time:	01/02/2000, 1800 CST	Registration:	N87NF
Aircraft:	Piper PA-46-310P	Injuries:	5 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The airplane was cruising at flight level 270 (27,000 feet) in dark night IMC, when the pilot heard a 'muffled thump,' from the engine. He observed an 'immediate loss of power (torque 0/ng 20%),' declared an emergency to ATC, and was advised of the nearest airport. He attempted one air restart and two electrical restarts, but was unsuccessful. During the ensuing forced landing, the airplane entered VFR conditions descending through 5,000 feet, and came to rest in a field, in 3-5 feet of standing water, southeast of the airport. A review of the downloaded data from the engine trend monitor and examination of the engine and its components by Pratt and Whitney did not reveal any pre-impact anomalies that would have precluded normal operation prior to the loss of engine power.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
The loss of engine power for an undetermined reason. A factor was the dark night light condition.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED

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

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

Findings

2. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	48
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	1900 hours (Total, all aircraft), 180 hours (Total, this make and model), 50 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N87NF
Model/Series:	PA-46-310P PA-46-310P	Engines:	1 Turbo Prop
Operator:	JOHN H.CULBERTSON	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	PT6A-34
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:	ARG, 273 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 2700 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots / , 110°
Temperature:	15°C	Visibility	6 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	TELLURIDE, CO (TEX)	Destination:	ATLANTA, GA (PDK)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	4 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:			

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JASON A RAGOGNA	Adopted Date:	03/02/2001
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.ntsbt.gov/pubdms/ .		

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