



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	GILLETTE, WY	Accident Number:	DEN00LA055
Date & Time:	03/02/2000, 1100 MST	Registration:	N6489W
Aircraft:	Cessna P210N	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

Prior to departure, the airplane was reportedly serviced to capacity (123 gallons). Weather was checked, and the pilot decided to fly VFR at 16,500 feet. No flight plan was filed. TAS was 185 knots, yielding an average GPS ground speed of 180 knots. It was estimated the 1,026 nm flight would take 5.7 hours. Allowing 20 minutes to climb to altitude, the pilot determined he would have more an hour of fuel reserve. Nearing his destination, the fuel gauges 'looked suspiciously low' (the Hoskins fuel calculator indicated 27 gallons of fuel remained). The pilot decided to divert to Gillette. Shortly thereafter, the engine lost power. The pilot made a forced landing on hilly terrain. The airplane touched down hard on a flat spot. The nose landing gear sheared off, and the airplane nosed over. Burning 120 gallons in 5.7 hours would require a consumption rate of slightly more than 21 gph.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to land sooner to refuel, resulting in a power loss due to fuel exhaustion. A factor was a lack of suitable terrain on which to make a forced landing.

Findings

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

Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
2. (C) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) REFUELING - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Occurrence #3: NOSE OVER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - MOUNTAINOUS/HILLY
5. TERRAIN CONDITION - SOFT
6. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - NONE SUITABLE

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	51
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	9449 hours (Total, all aircraft), 810 hours (Total, this make and model), 730 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 257 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 57 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N6489W
Model/Series:	P210N P210N	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	FLIGHT LEASE, INC.	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	TSIO-520-AF
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:	GCC, 4363 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	3 knots / , Variable
Temperature:	9°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	PONTIAC, MI (PTK)	Destination:	SHERIDAN, WY (SHR)

Airport Information

Airport:	GILLETTE-CAMPBELL COUNTY (GCC)	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	0	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

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): ARNOLD W SCOTT

Adopted Date: 11/29/2000

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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