



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

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<b>Location:</b>	RIDGEFIELD, CT	<b>Accident Number:</b>	NYC01LA030
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	11/02/2000, 1845 EST	<b>Registration:</b>	N4654G
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Cessna 172N	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Minor
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

The pilot reported that shortly before takeoff, she switched the airplane's fuel selector from the "right" position to the "both" position. During the initial climb after takeoff, the airplane's engine experienced momentary roughness followed by a loss of power. The pilot began performing the loss of engine power emergency checklist and verified that both the mixture and throttle controls were in the full forward position; however, she then needed to use both hands to maintain the airplane's glide attitude and was not able to verify the fuel selector position. The airplane struck trees, fell to ground and a post crash fire ensued. The majority of the airplane was consumed in the fire. A complete teardown of the engine did not reveal any pre-impact mechanical failures. Examination of the fuel selector revealed its position was approximately 35-degrees counterclockwise from the "both" tanks position, towards the "left" tank position; which would have resulted in a restricted fuel flow.

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to verify the airplane's fuel tank selector position, which resulted in a loss of engine power.

## Findings

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

### Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION
2. (C) FUEL TANK SELECTOR POSITION - NOT VERIFIED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING AFTER TAKEOFF

### Findings

3. OBJECT - TREE(S)

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	54
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Flight Time:</b>	560 hours (Total, all aircraft), 250 hours (Total, this make and model), 480 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 100 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Cessna	<b>Registration:</b>	N4654G
<b>Model/Series:</b>	172N 172N	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Operator:</b>	SUSAN L. BOGDAN	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-360-A4M
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Night/Dark
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	DXR, 458 ft msl	<b>Weather Information Source:</b>	Weather Observation Facility
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None / 0 ft agl	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	3 knots / , 360°
<b>Temperature:</b>	52° C	<b>Visibility</b>	10 Miles
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>			
<b>Departure Point:</b>	(DXR)	<b>Destination:</b>	

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	DANBURY MUNICIPAL (DXR)	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Runway Used:</b>	26	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	4422 ft / 150 ft		

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	On-Ground
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>			

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): LUKE SCHIADA Adopted Date: 09/27/2001

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](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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