



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	LAS VEGAS, NV	Accident Number:	DEN90LA050
Date & Time:	02/03/1990, 1205 PST	Registration:	N25CH
Aircraft:	CHRISTEN INDUSTRIES PITTS	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE PILOT SAID THAT DURING LANDING ROLL ON A FUEL STOP, THE AIRPLANE SWERVED TO THE LEFT. HE ATTEMPTED TO CORRECT WITH RIGHT BRAKE, TO NO AVAIL. THE PLANE GROUND LOOPED OFF THE LEFT SIDE OF THE RWY AND ENTERED SOFT TERRAIN. THE PLANE NOSED OVER AND CAME TO REST INVERTED. A POST-ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION BY AN FAA INSPECTOR REVEALED THAT THE RIGHT BRAKE PADS WERE WORN AND REQUIRED MORE FLUID FROM THE BRAKE RESERVOIR. THE FLUID LEVEL IN THE RESERVOIR WAS LOW. NO LEAKS OR OTHER PROBLEMS WERE FOUND ON THE BRAKE SYSTEM. THIS AIRCRAFT WAS AN EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN WITH LANDING GEAR ON THE TOP SIDE OF THE WINGS, MAKING IT CAPABLE OF INVERTED LANDINGS. THE SAME FLUID RESERVOIR SERVED BOTH SETS OF BRAKES.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT-IN-COMMAND'S FAILURE TO MAINTAIN DIRECTIONAL CONTROL AFTER A PARTIAL FAILURE OF THE NORMAL BRAKE SYSTEM.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. FLUID, HYDRAULIC - LOW LEVEL
2. (C) LANDING GEAR, NORMAL BRAKE SYSTEM - FAILURE, PARTIAL
3. (F) MAINTENANCE, SERVICE OF AIRCRAFT/EQUIPMENT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: NOSE OVER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

5. TERRAIN CONDITION - SOFT

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	44
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Multi-engine Sea; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane; Helicopter
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine; Helicopter; Instrument Airplane; Instrument Helicopter
Flight Time:	7825 hours (Total, all aircraft), 352 hours (Total, this make and model), 7538 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 27 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CHRISTEN INDUSTRIES	Registration:	N25CH
Model/Series:	PITTS PITTS	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	HOSKING AEROBATICS	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	AEIO-540-D4A5
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:	, 0 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	Light and Variable / , Variable
Temperature:	13° C	Visibility	50 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	WOODS CROSS, UT (BTF)	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	MCCARRAN (LAS)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	19R	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	5000 ft / 75 ft		

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): ROBERT B COLLINS

Adopted Date: 09/29/1992

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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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report.