



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

<b>Location:</b>	HAYWARD, CA	<b>Accident Number:</b>	LAX90LA046
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	12/02/1989, 1425 PST	<b>Registration:</b>	N3350W
<b>Aircraft:</b>	PIPER PA-32-437	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

PILOT REPORTED ALL TANKS WERE DRAINED PRIOR TO ENGINE START. POWER LOSS OCCURRED RIGHT AFTER TAKEOFF; LANDED ADJACENT TO RUNWAY DAMAGING GEAR AND PROP. PILOT ALSO REPORTED THAT APPARENTLY THE BLUE SEEN IN THE FUEL SAMPLE WAS A REFLECTION OF SKY COLORING - NOT FUEL.

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: ENGINE FAILURE DUE TO WATER IN FUEL THAT WAS NOT DISCOVERED BY THE PILOT DURING HIS PREFLIGHT INSPECTION OF THE FUEL SYSTEM.

## Findings

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

### Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - WATER
2. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	45
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Multi-engine Land	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1550 hours (Total, all aircraft), 350 hours (Total, this make and model)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N3350W
Model/Series:	PA-32-437 PA-32-437	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	LEROY PIERCE	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	EO-540-E4B5
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:	Calm / ,
Temperature:	16 °C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Destination: LIVERMORE, CA		

## Airport Information

Airport:	HAYWARD (HWD)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	28R	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	3000 ft / 150 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):	R. GARY MUCHO	Adopted Date:	06/22/1992
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 <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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