



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	PORT ELIZABETH, NJ	Accident Number:	NYC85FA092
Date & Time:	04/01/1985, 0740 EST	Registration:	N90885
Aircraft:	SIKORSKY S-55B	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 133: Rotorcraft Ext. Load		

Analysis

THE HELICOPTER LANDED HARD AFTER A DECREASE IN RPM DURING INITIAL CLIMB. THE ACFT WAS BEING USED FOR A SLING OPERATION. INVESTIGATION REVEALED A FAILED CLUTCH ASSEMBLY, S1435-2500-1. THE CLUTCH HAD OPERATED ONLY 200 HRS SINCE A MAJOR OVERHAUL.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) ROTOR DRIVE SYSTEM,CLUTCH ASSEMBLY - FAILURE,TOTAL
2. (C) MAINTENANCE - INADEQUATE - OTHER MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL
3. (C) MAINTENANCE,INSPECTION - INADEQUATE - OTHER MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL
4. (C) MAINTENANCE,MAJOR REPAIR - IMPROPER - OTHER MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Occurrence #3: HARD LANDING
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	42
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	5888 hours (Total, all aircraft), 148 hours (Total, this make and model), 5580 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	SIKORSKY	Registration:	N90885
Model/Series:	S-55B S-55B	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	CORDOBA HELICOPTER, INC	Engine Manufacturer:	WRIGHT
Operating Certificate(s) Held:		Engine Model/Series:	R-1300-3D
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 133: Rotorcraft Ext. Load		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	EWR, 18 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	Calm / ,
Temperature:	-18 °C	Visibility	20 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:			Destination:

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	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):	MICHAEL T KUZENKO	Adopted Date:	
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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