



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

<b>Location:</b>	KINGWOOD, WV	<b>Accident Number:</b>	NYC01LA050
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	12/03/2000, 1430 EST	<b>Registration:</b>	N97MS
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Miller SLINGSHOT	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot departed the airport for a local flight and when he failed to return, a search was initiated for the airplane. The airplane was found 2 days later in a heavily wooded area 7 miles south of the airport. Examination of the airplane and an engine test run failed to reveal any mechanical deficiencies. Information downloaded from the pilot's GPS revealed the airplane departed the airport and flew southwest in a relatively straight line to the accident site. The last eight 'track points' indicated that the airplane initiated a gradual left turn from a heading of 272 degrees to 111 degrees. During the turn, the airplane's altitude decreased from 626 to 383 feet, and the airspeed decreased from 86 mph to 52.2 mph. Examination of the airplane's logbook revealed that it had accumulated 40 hours of flight time since it was certificated for flight on January 30, 1998. Examination of the pilot's logbook revealed about 125 hours of flight experience in the accident airplane, from February 15, 1998 to December 30, 1998.

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain control of the airplane, and subsequent collision with trees.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT

### Findings

1. OBJECT - TREE(S)
2. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	39
<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>	970 hours (Total, all aircraft), 125 hours (Total, this make and model), 540 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Miller	<b>Registration:</b>	N97MS
<b>Model/Series:</b>	SLINGSHOT SLINGSHOT	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Operator:</b>	MICHAEL MILLER	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Rotax
<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	912UL
<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>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	MGW, 1248 ft msl	<b>Weather Information Source:</b>	Weather Observation Facility
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	5 knots / , 20°
<b>Temperature:</b>	0°C	<b>Visibility</b>	10 Miles
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>			
<b>Departure Point:</b>	VALLEY POINT, WV (WV29)	<b>Destination:</b>	(WV29)

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	39.485278, -79.685278		

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Jill Andrews	<b>Adopted Date:</b>	09/10/2002
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	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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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.