



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Ellinwood, KS	Accident Number:	CHI01LA195
Date & Time:	07/02/2001, 0930 CDT	Registration:	N4549E
Aircraft:	Air Tractor AT-401	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Analysis

The airplane contacted a guy wire and collided with the terrain during an aerial application flight. The pilot reported he saw the poles during the aerial application flight. He reported he knew that there would be wires in the area so he swung out wide during a turn to look for the wires. The right wing contacted a guy wire during the turn. The airplane then settled into the sunflower crop.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot failed to see and avoid the guy wire during an aerial application flight. A factor associated with the accident was the guy wire.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - AERIAL APPLICATION

Findings

1. (F) OBJECT - WIRE,STATIC
2. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	38
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	2553 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1000 hours (Total, this make and model), 2454 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 180 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 100 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Air Tractor	Registration:	N4549E
Model/Series:	AT-401	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Ellinwood Flying Services, Inc.	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
Operating Certificate(s) Held:		Engine Model/Series:	R-1340-AN-1
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	GBD, 1887 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	11 knots / 18 knots, 200°
Temperature:	26°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Ellinwood, KS (1K6)	Destination:	

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):	Pamela S Sullivan	Adopted Date:	11/23/2001
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 pubin@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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.