



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Boulder City, NV	Accident Number:	LAX01LA231
Date & Time:	07/01/2001, 0705 PDT	Registration:	N737SH
Aircraft:	Cessna 172N	Injuries:	4 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The airplane nosed over during a forced landing following a loss of engine power while in cruise flight. The engine lost power 2 days prior to the accident due to an internal magneto timing problem. The magneto timing was reset and the airplane was returned to service. A post accident examination of the engine revealed the magneto contact points would not open. The magneto was retimed and found to operate normally. According to the maintenance records, a 100-hour inspection took place 3.1 hours prior to the accident. The earlier magneto maintenance adjustment took place at an unknown time between the 100-hour inspection and the accident flight.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the loss of engine power while in cruise flight due to the mechanic's improper magneto timing.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - MECH FAILURE/MALF
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) IGNITION SYSTEM,IGNITION POINTS - NOT OPERATING
2. (C) MAINTENANCE,ADJUSTMENT - IMPROPER - COMPANY MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING

Findings

3. TERRAIN CONDITION - SOFT

Occurrence #4: NOSE OVER
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	26
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	92 hours (Total, all aircraft), 10 hours (Total, this make and model), 39 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N737SH
Model/Series:	172N	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Westair Aviation	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-H2AD
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:	KLAS, 2205 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 20000 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	6 knots / , 200°
Temperature:	32° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Boulder City, NV (61B)	Destination:	North Las Vegas, NV (VGT)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	3 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	36.033333, -114.933333		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	George E Petterson	Adopted Date:	04/28/2004
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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