



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Argyle, NY	Accident Number:	NYC02LA024
Date & Time:	11/02/2001, 1410 EST	Registration:	N36SK
Aircraft:	Cessna 172D	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot stated that after takeoff, about 150 feet above the ground, the oil access door opened. The pilot decided to return for a landing, and made a left turn back towards the airport. During the turn, the airplane lost lift and impacted an alfalfa field about 1/2 mile short of the runway.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain aircraft control while maneuvering.

Findings

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

Findings

1. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

On November 2, 2001, about 1410 eastern standard time, a Cessna 172D, N36SK, was substantially damaged when it impacted terrain near Argyle, New York. The certificated private pilot was not injured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed and no flight plan was filed for the local personal flight conducted under 14 CFR Part 91.

The pilot stated that he took off from runway 21 at Argyle Airport (1C3), Argyle, New York. Shortly after departure, about 150 feet above the ground, the oil access door opened. The pilot decided to return for a landing, and made a left turn back towards the airport. The pilot added that due to strong winds, the airplane "lost lift," and it impacted the ground. The airplane came to rest in an alfalfa field about 1/2 mile from the airport. The nose gear, propeller, wings, and fuselage sustained substantial damage. The pilot further stated that he did not experience any pre-impact mechanical malfunctions with the airplane.

The reported wind at an airport about 8 miles northwest of the accident site, at 1353, was from 190 degrees at 14 knots, gusting to 18 knots.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	68, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	10/12/2001
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	03/03/2001
Flight Time:	642 hours (Total, all aircraft), 31 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N36SK
Model/Series:	172D	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	17250459
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	11/04/2001, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	1 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	5014 Hours at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-300
Registered Owner:	Walter T. Fogg	Rated Power:	145 hp
Operator:	Walter T. Fogg	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	GFL, 328 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	8 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1353 EST	Direction from Accident Site:	324°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 7000 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	14 knots / 18 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	190°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.04 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	21°C / 11°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Argyle, NY (1C3)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1400 EST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	Argyle Airport (1C3)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	330 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	21	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2400 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic Pattern

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
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Robert J Gretz	Report Date:	06/04/2002
Additional Participating Persons:	Timothy Shaver; FAA FSDO-01; Albany, NY		
Publish 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.ntsbt.gov/pubdms/ .		

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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. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).