



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Puyallup, WA	Accident Number:	SEA02FA036
Date & Time:	02/02/2002, 1033 PST	Registration:	N520SE
Aircraft:	Aero Commander 520	Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation -		

Analysis

The pilot reported that the engines had full power before rotation, and that the takeoff roll was normal until rotation. Right after the aircraft lifted off, the left wing dropped and he felt a swerve to the left, and the aircraft's nose pitched up. The pilot pushed on the control yoke and attempted to counteract the roll motion with opposite aileron. The aircraft continued to the left and collided with trees approximately 1,250 feet from the departure end of the runway and about 100 yards east of the runway edge. Post accident inspection of the flight controls found control continuity from all flight control surfaces to the cockpit controls. The left engine was inspected and partially torn down. During the engine inspection, there was no evidence found to indicate a mechanical failure or malfunction.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain aircraft control during takeoff. Trees were a factor.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF

Findings

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

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

2. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	62
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	5000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2500 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Aero Commander	Registration:	N520SE
Model/Series:	520	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Operator:	Robert M. Kosola	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	GO-435-C2B
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation -		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	TCM, 323 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 5000 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	6 knots / , 120°
Temperature:	3°C	Visibility	7 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Puyallup, WA (150)	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Pierce Co-Thun Field (150)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	16	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	3650 ft / 60 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	47.106667, -122.289722		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Gregg Nesemeier

Adopted Date: 07/23/2003

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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