



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Mexia, TX	Accident Number:	ATL02FA058
Date & Time:	03/03/2002, 1350 CST	Registration:	N7272D
Aircraft:	Beech BE-60	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot arrived at Mexia-Limestone County Airport (TX06), Mexia, Texas, sometime before 1100. Once onboard the airplane, a witness, and an acquaintance of the pilot, closed and locked the airplane's cabin door for the pilot, and walked away from the airplane. He also reported that after the engines to the airplane were started, the airplane stayed on the ramp and idled for 10 to 15 minutes. No one saw the pilot taxi to the runway, but he taxied to the north end of Runway 18 for a downwind takeoff to the south. Examination of the accident site found the wreckage oriented along a path consistent with an extended centerline of runway 18. The airplane was found along a fence line approximately 1/4 mile from the departure end of Runway 18. The airplane's track was along a 183-degree bearing, and there was a large burn area prior to and around the debris zone along the wreckage path. Examination of the cockpit revealed a 9/16-inch hex-head bolt inserted in the control lock pinhole for the control column. Under normal procedures Cockpit Check in the Duke 60 Airplane Flight Manual, for Preflight Inspection the first item listed is: 1. "Control Locks - REMOVE and STOW". In addition, under normal procedures Before Starting check list in the Duke 60 Airplane Flight Manual, the fourth item to check is listed as: 4. "Flight Controls - FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT and PROPER RESPONSE"

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to remove the control lock before the flight and his failure to follow the checklist.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

1. (C) FLIGHT CONTROL, GUST LOCK - NOT REMOVED
2. (C) CHECKLIST - NOT FOLLOWED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

3. OBJECT - FENCE

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	55
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane
Flight Time:	25600 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Beech	Registration:	N7272D
Model/Series:	BE-60	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Operator:	Dale Lee Lockart	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	TIO-541-A1E4
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:	ACT, 592 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	17 knots / 22 knots, 360°
Temperature:	3°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Mexia, TX (LXY)	Destination:	Aurora, IL (DPA)

Airport Information

Airport:	Limestone County (LXY)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	18	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	4002 ft / 60 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	31.619167, -96.502778		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Butch Wilson

Adopted Date: 09/01/2004

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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