



## National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

---

<b>Location:</b>	St. Johns, AZ	<b>Accident Number:</b>	LAX02LA245
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	08/01/2002, 0735 MST	<b>Registration:</b>	N2233D
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Cessna 170B	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None

**Flight Conducted Under:** Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

---

On August 1, 2002, at 0735 mountain standard time, a Cessna 170B, N2233D, ground looped off the runway, hit a fence, and nosed over, while landing at St. Johns Industrial Air Park (SJN), St. Johns, Arizona. The airplane was owned and operated by the pilot under the provisions of 14 CFR Part 91. The private pilot, the sole occupant, was not injured; the airplane sustained substantial damage. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed and no flight plan had been filed for the local area personal flight that originated about 0700.

The pilot indicated that he was the last of a group of five aircraft to arrive at St. Johns and chose to land on runway 14, as the other members in the group had done. He was aware that a crosswind, "light and from the southwest," was present. Upon the attempted three-point touchdown, the airplane ground looped to the right. Left brake and rudder were applied, and the airplane veered off the east side of the runway. Noticing that the terrain dropped away on that side of the runway, the pilot added power and removed carburetor heat, in order to fly toward the lowering terrain and regain control of the airplane. However, the left wing tip made contact with soft terrain and the airplane struck a chain link fence while in flight. As a result, the airplane struck the ground nose first, and nosed over. The airplane came to rest inverted about 100 feet from the runway.

The automated surface observation system (ASOS) for St. Johns was reporting winds from 240 at 11 knots at 0754.

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	60, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	01/09/2001
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	07/30/2002
<b>Flight Time:</b>	754 hours (Total, all aircraft), 106 hours (Total, this make and model), 713 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Cessna	<b>Registration:</b>	N2233D
<b>Model/Series:</b>	170B	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	20385
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	09/10/2001, 100 Hour	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2200 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	17 Hours	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	3951 Hours at time of accident	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Continental
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	C-145
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	Thomas D. Lynch	<b>Rated Power:</b>	145 hp
<b>Operator:</b>	Thomas D. Lynch	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KSJN, 5736 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0754 MST	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	11 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	240°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.17 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24° C / 12° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	OVERGAARD, AZ (AZ82)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	St. Johns, AZ (SJN)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0700 MST	Type of Airspace:	Class E

## Airport Information

Airport:	St. Johns Industrial Air Park (SJN)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	5736 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	14	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5323 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop; 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:	34.518333, -109.378611

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JEFF RICH
Additional Participating Persons:	LARRY BUCHANAN; FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION; SCOTTSDALE, AZ
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 <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .