



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Rio Rancho, NM	<b>Accident Number:</b>	DEN03LA119
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	07/01/2003, 0745 MDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N360E
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Eagle Balloons Corp. C-7	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	None
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Serious, 1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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On July 1, 2003, at 0745 mountain daylight time, an Eagle Balloons Corporation C-7 balloon, N360E, piloted by a private pilot, sustained a hard landing at Rio Rancho, New Mexico. During the hard landing, a passenger on board the balloon was seriously injured. The balloon sustained no damage and the pilot was uninjured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time of the accident. The personal flight was being conducted under the provisions of Title 14 CFR Part 91 without a flight plan. The local flight originated at 0710.

The pilot reported that the winds were calm when they took off. He reported on landing they were approximately 10 knots. The pilot said he made a stand-up landing in hilly terrain. The pilot reported that the landing was a hard landing, but was not one of the hardest landings he'd experienced.

A Federal Aviation Administration inspector reported the passenger suffered a compound fracture in her lower left leg during the landing. The passenger was transported to a local hospital.

## Pilot Information

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<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	40, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Balloon	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	None	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	08/08/2001
<b>Flight Time:</b>			

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Eagle Balloons Corp.	Registration:	N360E
Model/Series:	C-7	Aircraft Category:	Balloon
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	E81707
Landing Gear Type:	Skid	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	Ohio Knox III	Rated Power:	
Operator:	Ohio Knox III	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	ABQ, 5352 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	10 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0756 MDT	Direction from Accident Site:	180°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 14000 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	170°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.22 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	23° C / 8° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Rio Rancho, NM	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0710 MDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	None
Passenger Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	35.350000, -106.621667

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	David C Bowling
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Tamara Bell; Federal Aviation Administration; Albuquerque, NM
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	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> .