



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Floresville, TX	Accident Number:	FTW04LA001
Date & Time:	10/02/2003, 1109 CDT	Registration:	N301SX
Aircraft:	Bratton Experimental Homebuilt Swearingen SX300	Injuries:	2 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of an experimental homebuilt single-engine airplane impacted the ground during a forced landing following a loss of engine power due to separation of a propeller blade. The shank connecting the composite propeller to the hub was broken, and one of the three blades was missing from the hub.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The separation of one propeller blade while in cruise flight. A factor contributing to the accident was the lack of suitable terrain for the forced landing.

Findings

Occurrence #1: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

1. (C) PROPELLER SYSTEM/ACCESSORIES,HUB - FAILURE

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING

Findings

2. TERRAIN CONDITION - GROUND
3. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - NONE SUITABLE

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	79
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	4000 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Bratton Experimental Homebuilt	Registration:	N301SX
Model/Series:	Swearingen SX300	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Marquis P. Bratton	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540
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:		Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots / , 90°
Temperature:	22° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Corpus Christi, TX (CRP)	Destination:	Fredericksburg, TX (T82)

Airport Information

Airport:	John B Connally Ranch Airport (8TAO)	Runway Surface Type:	Unknown
Runway Used:	NA	Runway Surface Condition:	Unknown
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	29.336944, -98.471111		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Frank McGill

Adopted Date: 06/02/2004

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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