



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Denver, CO	Accident Number:	DEN04LA019
Date & Time:	11/01/2003, 1215 MST	Registration:	N956UA
Aircraft:	Boeing 737-500	Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor, 95 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 121: Air Carrier - Scheduled		

Analysis

During the descent at FL 240, the captain asked the cabin crew to take their seats. At FL 210, the airplane encountered heavy to moderate turbulence. One flight attendant received minor injuries and another flight attendant received serious injuries. The airplane continued to Denver without further incident.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the in-flight encounter with heavy to moderate turbulence.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT

Findings

1. (C) WEATHER CONDITION - TURBULENCE

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Flight Engineer	Age:	45
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	4751 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1838 hours (Total, this make and model), 246 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 90 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Co-Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	39
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	2655 hours (Total, all aircraft), 22 hours (Total, this make and model), 68 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 22 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Boeing	Registration:	N956UA
Model/Series:	737-500	Engines:	2 Turbo Fan
Operator:	UNITED AIR LINES INC	Engine Manufacturer:	CFM International
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Flag carrier (121)	Engine Model/Series:	CFM56-3-B1
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 121: Air Carrier - Scheduled		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	DEN, 5431 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 500 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots / , 300°
Temperature:	-1 °C	Visibility	4 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Boise, ID (BOI)	Destination:	Denver, CO (DEN)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor, 3 None	Aircraft Damage:	None
Passenger Injuries:	92 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	40.491944, -105.236389		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	James F Struhsaker	Adopted Date:	03/30/2004
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/ .		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report.