



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Langley, WA	Accident Number:	SEA04LA152
Date & Time:	08/01/2004, 1030 PDT	Registration:	N70P
Aircraft:	Paulick Wittman W-10	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

Shortly after the aircraft took off, witnesses reported that the airplane did not attain an altitude sufficient to clear trees. The aircraft collided with trees and terrain near the departure end of the runway. A post-crash fire consumed the wreckage. Post-accident inspection of the heat distressed airframe and engine did not reveal evidence of a mechanical failure or malfunction.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate preflight preparation to assure adequate takeoff performance to clear obstacles, and his failure to maintain obstacle clearance.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)
2. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	73
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	4000 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Paulick	Registration:	N70P
Model/Series:	Wittman W-10	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Louis A Hagler	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-300
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:	NUW, 47 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:		Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots / , 300°
Temperature:	13° C	Visibility	7 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Langley, WA (W10)	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Whidbey Air Park (W10)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	16	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	2400 ft / 25 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:	48.018056, -122.438333		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Debra J Eckrote	Adopted Date:	01/24/2005
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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