



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	New Smyrna Beac, FL	Accident Number:	MIA05LA001
Date & Time:	10/01/2004, 1440 EDT	Registration:	N7059F
Aircraft:	Rotorway 162F	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot stated that the first 20 minutes of the flight had been uneventful, however, as he turned to return to the departure airport, he noticed a power loss, and that the rotor rpm was at the "low green" portion of the operating range. He said he lowered collective and increased throttle input, but the rpm continued to drop to the "mid- yellow" range. He initiated an autorotation from about 400 feet AGL, and landed the helicopter in the water. Examination of the helicopter and its systems did not reveal any preaccident anomalies.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
A loss of engine power due to undetermined reasons, which resulted in the pilot entering autorotation and affecting a forced landing to the water.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings
1. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED

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

Findings
2. AUTOROTATION

Occurrence #3: DITCHING
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial; Private	Age:	52
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider; Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine
Flight Time:	20000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 52 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Rotorway	Registration:	N7059F
Model/Series:	162F	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Bernd Gogolla	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotorway
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	RI-162F
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:	DAB, 34 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots / , 70°
Temperature:	31 °C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Daytona beach, FL (7FL6)	Destination:	(7FL6)

Airport Information

Airport:	Massey Ranch Airpark (X50)	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	NA	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	28.978889, -80.925000		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): John W Lovell

Adopted Date: 09/13/2005

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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