



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Del Norte, CO	Accident Number:	DEN05LA060
Date & Time:	03/01/2005, 0925 MST	Registration:	N9091
Aircraft:	Piel Emeraude CP-305	Injuries:	2 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

Shortly after departure, the airplane impacted near the base of a 300-foot butte. According to a witness, the pilot and passenger departed the airport to the west and he then lost sight of the airplane behind rising terrain adjacent to the airport. The witness reported the engine sounded normal during departure. Another witness, located in his residence, heard the airplane and a few minutes later heard a "pop." The witness observed a fire on a hillside. Examination of the accident site revealed the airplane impacted the terrain and came to rest approximately 167 feet from the initial impact. The airplane was destroyed by fire. The propeller blades displayed leading edge gouging, chordwise scratches, and were twisted in the direction of rotation. Flight control continuity was established from the cockpit to the flight control surfaces. The pilot had accumulated approximately 900 total flight hours.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain clearance with the terrain for undetermined reasons.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	67
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	900 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piel Emeraude	Registration:	N9091
Model/Series:	CP-305	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Robert A. Brunette	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-235-C
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:	KALS, 7539 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:		Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots / , 310°
Temperature:	1°C	Visibility:	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Del Norte, CO (8V1)	Destination:	South Park, CO

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	37.699167, -106.370278		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Aaron M Sauer	Adopted Date:	12/20/2005
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident docket 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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