



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

Location:	Walden, CO	Accident Number:	DEN07CA046
Date & Time:	01/01/2007, 1530 MST	Registration:	N821GS
Aircraft:	Piper PA-34-200T	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	4 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

The airplane was in cruise flight at 12,500 feet. The pilot disengaged the autopilot to maneuver over the mountains. He then pressed the trim-disengage button on the control yoke and shortly afterward, the airplane began rolling to the left and right. The pilot steadied the airplane with the rudder. He then began a 1/2 standard rate left turn. When he went to roll the airplane right, he said that the flight controls were difficult to manipulate. He attempted additional turns and found that that problem continued. The pilot changed airspeed and found the problem increased with reduced airspeed. After that, he declared an emergency with air traffic control, began a descent, and proceeded to the nearest airport. The pilot said he was unable to locate the airport so he elected to perform a wheels up landing on a snow-covered field. During the landing, the airplane sustained substantial damage to the inboard left wing and the bottom left side of the forward fuselage. An examination of the airplane revealed no anomalies that could explain the stiff controls.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N821GS
Model/Series:	PA-34-200T	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	34-7770419
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	TSIO-360
Registered Owner:	Teton Leasing, LLC	Rated Power:	
Operator:	Teton Leasing, LLC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:	Av Center, Inc.	Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	LAR	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	1553	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	350°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.13 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-10°C / -14°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Greeley, CO (GXY)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	Rock Springs, WY (RKS)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:		IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	3 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	
Total Injuries:	4 None	Latitude, Longitude:	40.750000, -106.271389

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	David C Bowling
Additional Participating Persons:	Jeff Graves; Denver, Colorado FSDO
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
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/ .