



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

Location:	San Diego, CA	Accident Number:	LAX07CA100
Date & Time:	03/03/2007, 1100 PST	Registration:	N78DH
Aircraft:	Hirsch Thorp T-18	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On March 3, 2007, about 1100 Pacific standard time, an amateur built experimental Hirsch Thorp T-18, N78DH, nosed over during landing at Brown Field Municipal Airport (SDM), San Diego, California. The owner/pilot was operating the airplane under the provisions of 14 CFR Part 91. The private pilot and one passenger received minor injuries; the airplane sustained substantial damage. The local personal flight departed SDM about 1000. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan had been filed. The approximate global positioning system (GPS) coordinates of the primary wreckage were 32 degrees 34 minutes north latitude and 116 degrees 58 minutes west longitude.

The pilot operator stated in a written report that while landing on runway 8L the airplane bounced and became airborne. The pilot added a small amount of power and let the airplane settle back onto the runway. The airplane bounced again, and the pilot noticed that the airplane was close to the right edge of the runway. He applied full power and pushed forward on the control stick. The propeller struck the runway and the airplane nosed over.

The pilot stated that the airplane and engine had no mechanical failures or malfunctions during the flight.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	61, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	03/01/2007
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	03/01/2006
Flight Time:	284 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4 hours (Total, this make and model), 76 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Hirsch	Registration:	N78DH
Model/Series:	Thorp T-18	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental	Serial Number:	125
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	03/01/2006, Condition	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1950 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	6 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1778.4 Hours as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-D25
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	170 hp
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SDM, 526 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	1053 PST	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	11 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	60°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.2 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	21° C / -4° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	San Diego, CA (SDM)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	San Diego, CA	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	1000 PST	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	BROWN FIELD MUNI (SDM)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt; Concrete
Airport Elevation:	525 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	8L	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	7972 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic Pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	32.566667, -116.966667

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Patrick H Jones
Additional Participating Persons:	Carl Allen; Federal Aviation Administration; San Diego, CA
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/ .