



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

Location:	Freehold, NY	Accident Number:	ATL07CA101
Date & Time:	07/01/2007, 1230 EDT	Registration:	N42CA
Aircraft:	Schempp-Hirth Discus-CS	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Glider Tow

The pilot stated that the take-off was normal his glider and the tow plane were on the initial climb out. During the climb they began to encounter heavy turbulence. At 200 feet AGL he continued to encounter heavy turbulence and bumped his head twice against the canopy. He inadvertently hit the release cable handle at a low altitude, and disconnected from the tow plane. He attempted to return to the airport and collided with trees after losing lift. The pilot did not report any flight control anomalies with the glider.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	56, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	None None	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	10/01/2006
Flight Time:	104 hours (Total, all aircraft), 18 hours (Total, this make and model), 50 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Schempp-Hirth	Registration:	N42CA
Model/Series:	Discus-CS	Aircraft Category:	Glider
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental	Serial Number:	239CS
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tandem	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	06/01/2007, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	2 Hours	Engines:	0
Airframe Total Time:	409 Hours at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	Paul F. Quinn	Rated Power:	
Operator:	Paul F. Quinn	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KALB, 285 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	30 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1151 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	20°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 7000 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots / 14 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	350°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.07 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	19° C / 8° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Freehold, NY (115)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Freehold, NY (115)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1230 EDT	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	FREEHOLD (NY21)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	440 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	30	IFR Approach:	Unknown
Runway Length/Width:	2275 ft / 22 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced Landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	42.358611, -74.059444

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Eric H Alleyne
Additional Participating Persons:	Jim Welch; Albany FSDO-01; Albany, NY
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 pubinquiry@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .