



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	San Jose, CA	<b>Accident Number:</b>	LAX07CA261
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	09/01/2007, 1233 PDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N5479A
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Cessna T210N	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	2 Minor
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

The pilot made a forced landing and impacted trees about 1/4-mile short of the airport following a loss of engine power during cruise flight. About 10 minutes prior to arriving at his intended destination, fuel in the left tank was exhausted. The pilot repositioned the fuel selector to the right fuel tank that he believed contained at least 10 gallons of fuel in an attempt at restarting the engine; however, engine power was not restored.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's mismanagement of the fuel supply that resulted in fuel starvation.

## Findings

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Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL  
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

### Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION
2. (C) FUEL MANAGEMENT - INCORRECT - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

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Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

### Findings

3. OBJECT - TREE(S)

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	77, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>		<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 With Waivers/Limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	04/01/2006
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	4473 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2523 hours (Total, this make and model), 26 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 13 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Cessna	<b>Registration:</b>	N5479A
<b>Model/Series:</b>	T210N	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	21063462
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Continental
<b>ELT:</b>		<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	TSIO-520
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	Richard F. Groger	<b>Rated Power:</b>	
<b>Operator:</b>	Richard F. Groger	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	Light and Variable /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Palm Springs, CA (PSP)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Hayward, CA (HWD)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	1015 PDT	Type of Airspace:	

## Airport Information

Airport:	Reid-Hillview of Santa ClaraCo (RHV)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	135 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	31R	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3101 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced Landing; Full Stop; Straight-in

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	
Total Injuries:	2 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	37.333333, -121.816667

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Wayne Pollack	Report Date:	11/29/2007
Additional Participating Persons:	Mike Schaadt; Federal Aviation Administration; San Jose, CA		
Publish Date:			
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 <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).