



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Alliance, OH	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CHI07CA291
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	09/01/2007, 1520 EDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N65832
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Schweizer SGS 2-33A	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Minor, 1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

The pilot reported that he normally sets the altimeter to zero prior to takeoff. The pilot reported that he was distracted during the preflight and he forgot to reset the altimeter which was set to field elevation, approximately 1,000 feet. This resulted in the pilot releasing from the tow 1,000 feet lower than what he thought he was. The pilot stated the glider hit the tops of trees while on final approach.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inattentiveness during the aircraft preflight and his failure to maintain clearance above the trees.

## Findings

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Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

### Findings

1. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INATTENTIVE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. OBJECT - TREE(S)

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	80, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Rear
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Glider	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	None None	<b>Last Medical Exam:</b>	
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	05/01/2007
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1100 hours (Total, all aircraft), 900 hours (Total, this make and model), 1100 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Manufacturer:</b>	Schweizer	<b>Registration:</b>	N65832
<b>Model/Series:</b>	SGS 2-33A	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Glider
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	312
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tandem	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	05/01/2007, Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1040 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	0
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	Cleveland Soaring Society	<b>Rated Power:</b>	
<b>Operator:</b>	Cleveland Soaring Society	<b>Air Carrier Operating Certificate:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	KCAK	Observation Time:	1451 EDT
Distance from Accident Site:	19 Nautical Miles	Condition of Light:	Day
Direction from Accident Site:		Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 4500 ft agl	Temperature/Dew Point:	24°C / 11°C
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots/ 14 knots, Variable	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	30.25 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Alliance, OH (K4G3)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Alliance, OH (K4G3)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	EDT	Type of Airspace:	

## Airport Information

Airport:	Miller Field (K4G3)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1070 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	9	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2912 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Unknown

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None		

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Pam S Sullivan	Adopted Date:	10/31/2007
Additional Participating Persons:	David Nuss; CLE FSDO		
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.ntsb.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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