



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Salt Lake City, UT	Accident Number:	SEA08CA004
Date & Time:	10/03/2007, 1057 MDT	Registration:	N8549F
Aircraft:	Piper PA 28-151	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The airplane was consumed by fire following a re-start of the engine. The pilot stated that he had taxied to the run up area and shutdown the engine to retrieve items from the baggage compartment. He restarted the engine and shortly thereafter, felt heat and saw flames coming from the lower portion of the engine cowling. Post accident testing by the Federal Aviation Administration accident coordinator showed that the fuel line fitting from the gascolator to the fuel pump leaked. The source of ignition for the fire could not be determined. Based on a review of the logbooks, the Federal Aviation Administration accident coordinator stated that no recent maintenance had been performed on the fitting.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The leak at the fuel line fitting, which resulted in a fire during engine start.

Findings

Occurrence #1: FIRE
Phase of Operation: STANDING - STARTING ENGINE(S)

Findings
1. (C) FUEL SYSTEM,LINE FITTING - LEAK

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	63
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	
Flight Time:	3548 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2400 hours (Total, this make and model), 14 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N8549F
Model/Series:	PA 28-151	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Jack Butterfield	Engine Manufacturer:	Textron Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SLC, 4607 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	24 knots / 31 knots, 180°
Temperature:	20° C	Visibility:	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Salt Lake City, UT (U42)	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	SLC Muni 2 Airport (U42)	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	NA	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	
Latitude, Longitude:	40.619444, -111.992778		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Kristi Dunks	Adopted Date:	12/20/2007
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident docket 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/ .		

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