



National Transportation Safety Board

Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Chugiak, AK	Accident Number:	ANC09FA003
Date & Time:	10/03/2008, 1500 AKD	Registration:	N7511J
Aircraft:	ANTONOVICH ANTON B CHALLENGER II	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The non-certificated pilot departed on a Title 14, CFR Part 91, local area personal flight in an experimental light sport homebuilt airplane. A witness reported seeing the airplane flying about 100 feet above trees before the engine noise increased, and the nose pitched down. The airplane subsequently descended nose first into dense woods. The pilot's flight instructor reported to the NTSB that he had given the pilot 19.2 hours of flight instruction, but the pilot had not progressed to a point where he could endorse him for a solo flight. He said that the pilot routinely struggled with pitch control during takeoff, landing, or when engine power was increased or decreased. Examination of the airplane did not disclose any preimpact mechanical malfunction. Given the lack of mechanical deficiencies with the airplane's engine or flight controls, in conjunction with the witness and the flight instructor's statements, it is likely the pilot failed to adequately maintain control of the airplane while maneuvering.

Flight Events

Maneuvering - Loss of control in flight
 Uncontrolled descent - Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain control of the airplane while maneuvering, resulting in an in-flight collision with trees. Contributing to the accident was the pilot's lack of experience.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Pitch control-Not attained/maintained - C
 Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C
 Personnel issues-Experience/knowledge-Experience/qualifications-Total experience-Pilot - F
 Environmental issues-Physical environment-Object/animal/substance-Tree(s)-Not specified

Pilot Information

Certificate:	None	Age:	61
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	19 hours (Total, all aircraft), 19 hours (Total, this make and model), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	ANTONOVICH ANTON B	Registration:	N7511J
Model/Series:	CHALLENGER II	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	ROILAND RICHARD H	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotex
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	502
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	PABV, 83 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 4800 ft agl
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	3 knots, 260°
Temperature:	6°C / -1°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Birchwood, AK (BVC)	Destination:	Birchwood, AK (BVC)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Clinton O Johnson	Adopted Date:	09/30/2009
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/ .		

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