



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Madison, WI	Accident Number:	CEN09LA093
Date & Time:	12/03/2008, 1315 CST	Registration:	N782NC
Aircraft:	MCDONNELL DOUGLAS DC-9-50	Injuries:	57 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 121: Air Carrier - Scheduled		

Analysis

The airplane landed on a snow covered runway and was unable to maneuver while taxiing. The pilot requested that a tug be dispatched to tow the airplane to the gate. After the tug was connected, the airplane and tug slid on the snow and the tug jackknifed and impacted the left side of the airplane causing substantial damage. The tug was subsequently re-connected and the airplane was towed to the gate.

Flight Events

Taxi-from runway - Ground handling event

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The collision between the tug and the airplane during towing as a result of sliding on the snow covered runway.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft handling/service-Towing and taxiing-Towing-Not specified - C
Environmental issues-Physical environment-Runway/land/takeoff/taxi surfa-Snow/slush/ice covered-Effect on operation - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Commercial	Age:	51
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	
Flight Time:	12871 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3656 hours (Total, this make and model), 3656 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 128 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 25 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Co-Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Commercial	Age:	50
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane; Helicopter
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	
Flight Time:	4731 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4731 hours (Total, this make and model), 79 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 37 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	MCDONNELL DOUGLAS	Registration:	N782NC
Model/Series:	DC-9-50	Engines:	2 Turbo Fan
Operator:	NORTHWEST AIRLINES INC	Engine Manufacturer:	Pratt & Whitney
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	Flag carrier (121)	Engine Model/Series:	JT8D-17
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 121: Air Carrier - Scheduled		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	MSN, 887 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	Indefinite (V V) / 700 ft agl
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	13 knots/ 18 knots, 320°
Temperature:	-2° C / -3° C	Visibility	1 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	Light - Snow; Mist		
Departure Point:	Detroit, MI (DTW)	Destination:	Madison, WI (MSN)

Airport Information

Airport:	Dane County Regional Airport (MSN)	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Runway Used:	36	Runway Surface Condition:	Snow; Wet
Runway Length/Width:	9006 ft / 150 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	5 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	52 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	John M Brannen	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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