



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	West Point, VA	Accident Number:	ERA09LA435
Date & Time:	08/01/2009, 1900 EDT	Registration:	N1999G
Aircraft:	BEECH B90	Injuries:	1 Fatal, 6 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Skydiving		

Analysis

During a skydiving flight at approximately 14,000 feet, an instructor positioned himself at the door opening with his jump student nearby. The student inadvertently pulled the instructor's reserve parachute D-ring, deploying the chute and pulling the instructor out of the airplane. The instructor contacted the left horizontal stabilizer then descended toward the ground coming to rest suspended in a tree by his parachute.

Flight Events

Enroute-cruise - Miscellaneous/other

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The inadvertent deployment of the instructor's reserve parachute.

Findings

Personnel issues-Action/decision-Action-Incorrect action selection-Passenger - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Commercial	Age:	31
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	4430 hours (Total, all aircraft), 11 hours (Total, this make and model), 3700 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 205 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 75 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	BEECH	Registration:	N1999G
Model/Series:	B90	Engines:	2 Turbo Prop
Operator:	Rampart Aviation, Inc.	Engine Manufacturer:	Pratt & Whitney
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	PT6 SER 578HP
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Skydiving		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	FYJ, 20 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots, 110°
Temperature:	28° C / 21° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	West Point, VA	Destination:	West Point, VA (FYJ)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal, 5 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Timothy W Monville	Adopted Date:	12/20/2010
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=74425		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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