



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Rosemount, MN	Accident Number:	CEN10LA002
Date & Time:	10/03/2009, 1547 CDT	Registration:	N70585
Aircraft:	PIPER J3C-65	Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that he started the engine and waited for about 10 minutes for the oil temperature to rise before he departed from a grass airstrip. During takeoff, he reported that the airplane “felt slow.” He turned the carburetor heat on, but the engine lost partial power and the airplane “started to sink.” He banked to the left to avoid trees. He reported losing altitude, and then the airplane experienced a “stall spin to the left,” impacting a mature corn field. Postaccident inspection of the engine and airframe revealed no preexisting anomalies that would preclude normal operation of the airplane. The observed temperature was 11 degrees Celsius (C) and the dew point was 6 degrees C. The Transport Canada Carburetor Icing chart indicated that at the observed weather conditions the engine was susceptible to “Serious Icing – Any Power.”

Flight Events

Takeoff - Fuel related
Takeoff - Loss of engine power (partial)
Takeoff - 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 delayed use of carburetor heat while operating in conditions conducive to carburetor icing.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft power plant-Engine controls-(general)-Incorrect use/operation - C
Personnel issues-Action/decision-Action-Delayed action-Pilot - C
Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Use of equip/system-Pilot
Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Temp/humidity/pressure-Conducive to carburetor icing-Effect on operation - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Commercial	Age:	35
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	2120 hours (Total, all aircraft), 60 hours (Total, this make and model), 14 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	PIPER	Registration:	N70585
Model/Series:	J3C-65	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	BRIAN B DOYLE	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	A-65-8
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	MSP, 841 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 3400 ft agl
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots, 330°
Temperature:	11°C / 6°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Rosemount, MN	Destination:	Rosemount, MN

Airport Information

Airport:	Jensen Airfield	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	N/A	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	James P Silliman	Adopted Date:	05/28/2010
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=74849		

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