



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Reserve, NM	Accident Number:	CEN10CA111
Date & Time:	02/01/2010, 1500 MDT	Registration:	N3565B
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-32R-301T	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Fire/smoke (non-impact)	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Ferry		

Analysis

During takeoff the pilot heard a "pop" noise followed by smoke in the cockpit. The pilot elected to continue the takeoff roll and return to the airport; during the downwind leg, the smoke became severe. The pilot was able to land the airplane safely. Examination of the airplane revealed that the engine, cowling, and firewall sustained fire damage. Additionally the inspection revealed that a fuel injector/line on the No. 5 cylinder was broken and had sprayed fuel onto the engine's turbocharger.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: An in-flight fire due to a fuel leak from the No. 5 cylinder's broken fuel injector/line.

Findings

Aircraft	Fuel distribution - Failure (Cause)
-----------------	-------------------------------------

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Powerplant sys/comp malf/fail Fire/smoke (non-impact) (Defining event)
---------	---

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	71, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without Waivers/Limitations	Last Medical Exam:	07/01/2008
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	09/28/2009
Flight Time:	28500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 29 hours (Total, this make and model), 25000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 34 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	PIPER	Registration:	N3565B
Model/Series:	PA-32R-301T	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	32R-8029027
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	7
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	TIO-540 SER
Registered Owner:	ZIA CONSULTING INC	Rated Power:	310 hp
Operator:	ZIA CONSULTING INC	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:		Observation Time:	
Distance from Accident Site:		Condition of Light:	Day
Direction from Accident Site:		Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Temperature/Dew Point:	
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots, 220°	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:		Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Reserve, NM (T16)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Unknown
Destination:	New Philadelphi, OH (PHD)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	MDT	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Reserve Airport (T16)	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	N/A	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced Landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	In-Flight
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Craig Hatch	Adopted Date:	05/28/2010
Additional Participating Persons:	Robert O'Haver; FAA FSDO; Albuquerque, NM		
Publish Date:	05/26/2010		
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=75332		

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.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report.