



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Algonac, MI	Accident Number:	CEN10FA182
Date & Time:	04/01/2010, 1305 EDT	Registration:	N853CZ
Aircraft:	CZECH AIRCRAFT WORKS SPOL SRO MERMAID	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

Local residents observed the airplane flying low along the river. They reported that it entered a bank in the direction of their residence and at one point the wings were perpendicular to the water. The nose of the airplane suddenly dropped and it descended, ultimately striking the dock and shallow water. The airplane came to rest inverted, partially supported by the boat dock and partially in the river. A postaccident examination of the airframe and engine did not identify any anomalies consistent with a preimpact failure or malfunction. While Diphenhydramine, an over-the-counter antihistamine that commonly results in impaired performance, was found in the pilot's blood at a level consistent with recent use, the investigation was not able to definitively conclude that the pilot suffered from impairment.

Flight Events

Maneuvering - Aerodynamic stall/spin
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 loss of control resulting from an aerodynamic stall/spin while maneuvering at low altitude.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-(general)-Not attained/maintained - C
Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	80
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	2200 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	CZECH AIRCRAFT WORKS SPOL SRO	Registration:	N853CZ
Model/Series:	MERMAID	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Michigan Sport Aviation LLC	Engine Manufacturer:	Jabiru
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	3300
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	MTC, 580 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 22000 ft agl
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	11 knots, 160°
Temperature:	22° C / 8° C	Visibility	12 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Troy, MI (VLL)	Destination:	Troy, MI (VLL)

Airport Information

Airport:	Oakland-Troy (VLL)	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	N/A	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Timothy Sorensen	Adopted Date:	04/12/2011
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=75626		

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