



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	New Albany, IN	Accident Number:	CEN10FA233
Date & Time:	05/02/2010, 2016 EDT	Registration:	N135CC
Aircraft:	JetProp DLX Piper PA46	Injuries:	2 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The instrument-rated pilot was issued a clearance to descend to 4,000 feet for radar vectors to a nonprecision instrument approach in instrument meteorological conditions (IMC). The last 1 minute 23 seconds of radar data indicated the airplane leveled at 4,000 feet for about 35 seconds and then varied between 3,800 feet and 3,900 feet for the remainder of the flight for which data was available. During this timeframe, the airspeed decreased from 131 knots to 57 knots. Witnesses observed the airplane descending in a spin, and one reported hearing the engine running. Recorded engine data showed an increase in engine power near stall speed, which was likely the pilot's response to the low airspeed. The airplane damage was consistent with a low-speed impact with some rotation about the airplane's vertical axis. The pilot did not make any transmissions to air traffic control indicating any abnormalities or emergency. Postaccident examination of the airplane revealed no anomalies that would have precluded normal operation. During training on the accident airplane, the instructor recommended that the pilot get 25 to 50 hours of flight in visual meteorological conditions before flying in IMC in order to gain more familiarity with the radios, switches, and navigation equipment. The pilot only had 14 hours of flight time in the accident airplane before the accident flight, however it could not be determined whether this played a role in the accident.

Flight Events

Enroute-change of cruise level - Miscellaneous/other
Enroute-cruise - Aerodynamic stall/spin
Enroute-cruise - Attempted remediation/recovery
Enroute-cruise - Loss of control in flight
Enroute-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 failure to maintain airspeed in instrument meteorological conditions, which resulted in an aerodynamic stall.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Airspeed-Not attained/maintained - C
Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C
Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Ceiling/visibility/precip-(general)-Effect on operation

Other Flight Crew Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	59
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	2494 hours (Total, all aircraft), 14 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	JetProp DLX Piper	Registration:	N135CC
Model/Series:	PA46 350P	Engines:	1 Turbo Prop
Operator:	Pilot	Engine Manufacturer:	Pratt & Whitney
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	PT6A-34
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	LOU, 546 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 800 ft agl
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots, 180°
Temperature:	21° C / 21° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	Light - Rain; No Obscuration		
Departure Point:	Paducah, KY (PAH)	Destination:	Louisville, KY (LOU)

Airport Information

Airport:	Runway Surface Type:
Runway Used:	Runway Surface Condition:
Runway Length/Width:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Mitchell F Gallo	Adopted Date:	06/28/2012
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=75910		

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