



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Nappanee, IN	Accident Number:	CEN11CA002
Date & Time:	10/01/2010, 1209 EDT	Registration:	N9049S
Aircraft:	GINGERICH ALTON & SLAGEL DEAN CHRISTAVIA MK 1	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of engine power (total)	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that after takeoff, about 250 feet above ground level (agl), the engine experienced a total loss of power. He reduced the throttle to idle and attempted to land on the runway; however, there was not enough distance remaining. He subsequently pushed the throttle forward and the engine regained power. As the airplane reached approximately 250 feet agl, the engine lost power again. The pilot subsequently set up for a forced landing to a harvested corn field immediately west of the airport. The airplane nosed over during the emergency landing. A postaccident examination of the engine revealed no anomalies consistent with a preimpact failure or malfunction.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The total loss of engine power for undetermined reasons.

Findings

Aircraft	Engine (reciprocating) - Not specified (Cause)
Not determined	Not determined - Unknown/Not determined (Cause)

Factual Information

History of Flight

Initial climb	Loss of engine power (total) (Defining event)
Emergency descent	Off-field or emergency landing

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Sport Pilot	Age:	69, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Sport Pilot None	Last Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	300 hours (Total, all aircraft), 29 hours (Total, this make and model), 297 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	GINGERICH ALTON & SLAGEL DEAN	Registration:	N9049S
Model/Series:	CHRISTAVIA MK 1	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental	Serial Number:	1001
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	12/02/2009, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1320 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	73 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-200
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	100 hp
Operator:	On file	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	GSH, 827 ft msl	Observation Time:	1253
Distance from Accident Site:	8 Nautical Miles	Condition of Light:	Day
Direction from Accident Site:	55°	Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Temperature/Dew Point:	19° C / 4° C
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots/ 15 knots, 300°	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	30.11 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Nappanee, IN (C03)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Nappanee, IN (C03)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1215 EDT	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Nappanee Muni (C03)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	860 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	27	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3675 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced Landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Timothy Sorensen	Adopted Date:	03/16/2011
Additional Participating Persons:	Robert Helbing; FAA-South Bend FSDO; South Bend, IN		
Publish Date:	03/16/2011		
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=77489		

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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