



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Davenport, IA	Accident Number:	CEN12LA602
Date & Time:	09/01/2012, 1330 CDT	Registration:	N139GS
Aircraft:	AERO VODOCHODY L39C	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Air Race/Show		

Analysis

The accident airplane was one of three airplanes in an airshow performance. After overflying the spectators and while flying away from the flight line, the airplanes executed a “crossover break” maneuver, at the beginning of which the accident airplane was in the left wing position. As planned, the lead airplane would climb while the left wing position airplane would enter a right turn and the right wing position airplane would enter a left turn with adequate longitudinal spacing. During the maneuver, the accident airplane entered the right turn as planned, but then descended and impacted the terrain. A postimpact fire ensued. No evidence of an in-flight collision with either of the other airplanes was observed. Witnesses reported that they did not observe any movement of the airplane's flight control surfaces before the airplane impacted terrain, which would be inconsistent with the pilot attempting to recover from the descent. The postaccident examination did not reveal any preaccident mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

Flight Events

Maneuvering-aerobatics - Loss of control in flight

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The loss of airplane control for reasons that could not be determined because postaccident examination did not reveal any anomalies that would have precluded operation.

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:	Commercial; Private	Age:	59
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	2500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 600 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	AERO VODOCHODY	Registration:	N139GS
Model/Series:	L39C	Engines:	1 Turbo Jet
Operator:	On file	Engine Manufacturer:	IVCHENKO
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	AL-25TL
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Air Race/Show		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	DVN, 751 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 4000 ft agl
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	14 knots, 70°
Temperature:	22° C / 20° C	Visibility	9 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	Light - In the Vicinity - Rain		
Departure Point:	Davenport, IA (DVN)	Destination:	Davenport, IA (DVN)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	On-Ground

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Aaron M Sauer	Adopted Date:	01/13/2014
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=84919		

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