



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Correctionville, IA	Accident Number:	CEN13FA082
Date & Time:	12/01/2012, 1950 CST	Registration:	N1566Z
Aircraft:	BEECH P35	Injuries:	2 Fatal, 1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The commercial pilot was receiving flight-following services. He advised an air traffic controller that he had the airport in sight, and the controller acknowledged and told the pilot that radar services were terminated. The airport had an unimproved grass strip and runway lights. Two witnesses who lived next to the airport said thick fog quickly enveloped the area shortly before the accident. Another witness said that visibility had dropped to less than 1/4 mile and that he heard the airplane fly low over his house but could not see it. On the approach to land, the airplane struck trees and terrain about 1/4 mile northeast of the airport. A postimpact fire ensued. A postaccident examination of the airplane revealed no anomalies that would have precluded normal operation. The airplane was instrument equipped and the commercial pilot held an instrument rating.

Flight Events

Maneuvering - VFR encounter with IMC
Maneuvering - Loss of control in flight
Maneuvering - 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 perform a go-around after encountering thick fog at night.

Findings

Personnel issues-Action/decision-Action-Delayed action-Pilot - C
Personnel issues-Action/decision-Info processing/decision-Decision making/judgment-Pilot - C
Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Ceiling/visibility/precip-Fog-Contributed to outcome

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	70
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	2400 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	BEECH	Registration:	N1566Z
Model/Series:	P35	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	KNAACK GAYLEN M	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-470-N
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	KSUX, 1098 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Condition of Light:	Night/Dark	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	Calm
Temperature:	2°C / 1°C	Visibility	5 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Grand Island, NE (KGRI)	Destination:	Correctionville, IA

Airport Information

Airport:	Private	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	N/A	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	2 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Arnold W Scott	Adopted Date:	06/19/2013
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=85712		

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