



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Wheeling, WV	Accident Number:	IAD05CA025
Date & Time:	12/18/2004, 2215 EST	Registration:	N60CF
Aircraft:	Smith, Ted Aerostar 601P	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Unknown		

Analysis

The pilot attempted a night landing on a taxiway in front of the control tower, which was closed at the time. The airplane overran the end of the taxiway, rolled down an embankment and struck trees. The pilot, whose identity was not confirmed, was believed to have incurred minor injuries. He subsequently paid a passerby to take him to a local hotel, and after a night's rest, he left the area. Ownership of the airplane could not be determined due to a recent sale. Approximately 250 kilos of cocaine were found onboard the airplane. Further investigation was being conducted by federal authorities and local law enforcement.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot misjudged his distance/speed, and his intentional landing on an unsuitable taxiway at night. A factor in the accident was the night light conditions.

Findings

Occurrence #1: OVERRUN

Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings

1. (C) DISTANCE/SPEED - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND
 2. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - NIGHT
 3. (C) UNSUITABLE TERRAIN OR TAKEOFF/LANDING/TAXI AREA - INTENTIONAL - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

4. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	None	Age:	0, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Unknown	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	0 hours (Total, all aircraft), 0 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	Smith, Ted Aerostar	Registration:	N60CF
Model/Series:	601P	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	61P-0415-149
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	IO-540
Registered Owner:	Undetermined	Rated Power:	
Operator:	Undetermined	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Observation Time:	
Distance from Accident Site:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Temperature/Dew Point:	
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility	
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:		Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:		Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Unknown	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Wheeling, WV (HLG)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:

Runway Surface Type:

Airport Elevation:

Runway Surface Condition:

Runway Used:

IFR Approach:

Runway Length/Width:

VFR Approach/Landing:

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries: 1 Minor

Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Passenger Injuries: N/A

Aircraft Fire: None

Ground Injuries: N/A

Aircraft Explosion:

Total Injuries: 1 Minor

Latitude, Longitude: 40.171667, -80.641111

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Paul R Cox

Adopted Date: 05/30/2006

Additional Participating Persons:

Publish Date:

Note: This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.

Investigation Docket: NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinquiry@ntsb.gov, or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/>.

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report.