



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	TROY, MI	Accident Number:	CHI85LA077
Date & Time:	12/26/1984, 2130 EST	Registration:	N115EA
Aircraft:	CESSNA 402C	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	4 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Executive/Corporate		

Analysis

THE ACFT COLLIDED WITH TREES DURING THE INITIAL TAKEOFF CLIMB FROM RWY 27 AT OAKLAND-TROY AIRPORT, TROY, MI, WHILE ON A CORPORATE FLT. INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT APPROX 3 TO 5 INCHES OF SNOW HAD FALLEN AT THE ARPT DURING THE DAY & THE SNOW HAD NOT BEEN REMOVED FROM THE RWY THAT EVENING. A WITNESS REPORTED THERE WAS 5 INCHES OF SNOW ON THE RWY & IT WAS SNOWING AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT. THE PLT REPORTED THAT 'SHORTLY AFTER TAKEOFF THE ACFT YAWED, THEN VEERED RIGHT. UPON CORRECTING THIS CONDITION LEFT WING STRUCK THE GROUND.' WHEN THE RIGHT ENG WAS TESTED A SMALL LEAK WAS DISCOVERED AT THE AIR INTAKE MANIFOLD. THE LEFT ENG WAS SEVERELY DAMAGED BY FIRE & COULD NOT BE TESTED.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - TURBULENCE
2. (C) PROPER CLIMB RATE - NOT ATTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) OVERCONFIDENCE IN AIRCRAFT'S ABILITY - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) AIRCRAFT PERFORMANCE, TAKEOFF CAPABILITY - UNDETERMINED
5. (F) AIRPORT SNOW REMOVAL - NOT PERFORMED - AIRPORT PERSONNEL

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Flight Instructor	Age:	41, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	02/27/1984
Occupational Pilot:	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:		
Flight Time:	11158 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2700 hours (Total, this make and model), 10733 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 55 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N115EA
Model/Series:	402C 402C	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	402C-0090
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	10
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	12/20/1983, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	6350 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	6 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1593 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	TSIO-520-VB
Registered Owner:	AVCO	Rated Power:	325 hp
Operator:	AVCO	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Bright
Observation Facility, Elevation:	DET, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2145 EST	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	1 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Obscured / 400 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	90°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-3 °C / -6 °C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	TROY, MI (7D2)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	PIKEVILLE, KY (5I0)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	OAKLANO-TROY (7D2)	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:	730 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	27	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3855 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	3 None	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	4 None	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	PAMELA S KLECKNER	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	R BENZON; DES PLAINES, IL T MARTIN; BELLEVILLE, MI		
Publish Date:			
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. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).