



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	JEFFERSON, GA	Accident Number:	ATL90FA179
Date & Time:	09/25/1990, 1230 EDT	Registration:	N316MH
Aircraft:	CESSNA 421B	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	3 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Executive/Corporate		

Analysis

SHORTLY AFTER TAKEOFF, THE ACFT WAS SEEN FLYING LOW OVR TREES, FLWD BY A RAPID ROLL TO THE LEFT & A COLLISION WITH WOODED TRRN. ONE WITNESS RPRTD SEEING GRAY SMOKE TRAILING THE LEFT ENG BFR THE CRASH. AN INSPN OF THE WRECKAGE REVEALED THE LEFT ENGINE SPARK PLUGS WERE BLACK & HEAVILY SOOTED. NEITHER PROP HAD BEEN FEATHERED BFR THE ACDNT. THE LNDG GEAR WAS FND IN AN EXTENDED PSN. FURTHER INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT CESSNA MULTI-ENG SVC BULLETIN (SB) 88-3 WAS NOT COMPLIED WITH. THIS SB MODIFIED THE FUEL SYS TO PROVIDE FOR DRCT PLT (RATHER THAN AUTOMATIC) ACTUATION OF THE OUTPUT PRESSURE OF THE AUXILIARY FUEL PUMPS. BOTH ENGS RAN SATISFACTORILY ON A TEST STAND FLWG THE ACDNT. NO OTR EVIDENCE OF MECH FAILURE OR MALFUNCTION WAS FND.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: FAILURE OF THE PILOT TO PERFORM THE CORRECT EMERGENCY PROCEDURES, WHEN CONFRONTED WITH A LOSS OF ENGINE POWER, AND HIS FAILURE TO MAINTAIN MINIMUM CONTROL SPEED (VMC), WHICH RESULTED IN A LOSS OF AIRCRAFT CONTROL.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (F) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED
 2. FUEL SYSTEM
 3. MAINTENANCE, SERVICE BULLETIN/LETTER - NOT FOLLOWED
 4. IGNITION SYSTEM, SPARK PLUG - FOULED
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Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF

Findings

5. (C) EMERGENCY PROCEDURE - NOT ATTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
 6. GEAR RETRACTION - NOT ATTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
 7. PROPELLER FEATHERING - NOT ATTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
 8. (C) AIRSPEED(VMC) - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
 9. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	56, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	05/01/1990
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	3800 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N316MH
Model/Series:	421B 421B	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	421B0327
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	8
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	07/09/1990, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	7450 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	134 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3004 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	GTSIO-520
Registered Owner:	TEXFI INDUSTRIES INC.	Rated Power:	375 hp
Operator:	TEXFI INDUSTRIES INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	AHN, 807 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	16 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1250 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	150°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	20 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	240°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	22° C / 9° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	(19A)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	GREER, SC (GSP)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1229 EDT	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	JACKSON COUNTY (19A)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	951 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	16	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4108 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	On-Ground
Total Injuries:	3 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	RALPH E HICKS, JR.	Report Date:	03/05/1993
Additional Participating Persons:			
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](#).