

National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location: AURORA, CO Accident Number: DEN84FA030

Date & Time: 11/22/1983, 1740 MST Registration: N7724N

Aircraft: CESSNA 414 Aircraft Damage: Destroyed

Defining Event: Injuries: 2 Fatal

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

Analysis

DURING WX BRIEFINGS THE PLT WAS ADVISED OF ICING CONDITIONS IN THE DENVER AREA. WHILE APPROACHING THE DENVER AREA THE PLT RADIOED 'CAN YOU GET ME DOWN, IT'S A LITTLE BIT ICY UP HERE.' THE PLT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ASKED & WAS GIVEN A CLOSE TURN ONTO THE OUTER MARKER. THE ACFT WAS OBSERVED TO OVERFLY THE ARPT AT ABOUT 500 FT AGL. THE PLT THEN ACKNOWLEDGE THE MISSED APPROACH INSTRUCTIONS, & 1 MIN LATER REPORTED ...'LOTS OF ICE...' & '...I'M STALLING OUT...' THE PLT REPORTLY DIDNOT LIKE TO FLY APPROACHES TO MINIMUMS & SET THE ALTITUDE ALERTER TO AN ALTITUDE ABOVE MINIMUMS AS A SAFETY MARGIN. THE PLT HAD LOGGED 3.5 HRS ACTUAL & 4.1 HRS SIMULATED INSTRUMENT TIME, & 3 INSTRUMENT APPROACHES IN THE LAST 6 MOS. THE ACFT'S CG WAS 6 INCHES AFT OF THE AFT CG LIMIT.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER

Phase of Operation: APPROACH

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - ICING CONDITIONS

2. (F) FLIGHT INTO KNOWN ADVERSE WEATHER - INTENTIONAL - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT Phase of Operation: MISSED APPROACH (IFR)

Findings

- 3. (F) LIGHT CONDITION DARK NIGHT
- 4. (F) WEATHER CONDITION SNOW
- 5. (F) WEATHER CONDITION LOW CEILING
- 6. (C) IFR PROCEDURE IMPROPER PILOT IN COMMAND
- 7. (C) DECISION HEIGHT NOT ATTAINED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 8. (F) UNDERCONFIDENCE IN PERSONAL ABILITY PILOT IN COMMAND
- 9. (F) LACK OF RECENT INSTRUMENT TIME PILOT IN COMMAND
- 10. (F) MISSED APPROACH INITIATED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 11. (C) WING ICE

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: MISSED APPROACH (IFR)

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Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	62, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medicalw/waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	10/06/1983
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	4414 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1862 hours (Total, this make and model), 4257 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 50 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

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Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N7724N
Model/Series:	414 414	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	414-0436
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	5
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	05/27/1983, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	6350 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	63 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1862 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	TSIO-520
Registered Owner:	WILLIAM GEARY	Rated Power:	310 hp
Operator:	WILLIAM GEARY	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0000	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Partial Obscuration / 200 ft agl	Visibility	2 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 200 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	360°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	-7°C / -18°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	RENO, NV (RNO)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	ENGLEWOOD, CO (APA)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	ARAPAHOE COUNTY (APA)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	5872 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Ice; Snowdry; Wet
Runway Used:	34R	IFR Approach:	ILS
Runway Length/Width:	8500 ft / 101 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	GREGORY A FEITI	Report Date:
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 publing@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/ .	

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The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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.

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