National Transportation Safety Board Washington, DC 20594

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Total Instrument Time: 160

Brief of Accident

Adopted 07/30/2008

NYC05FA042

Instrument Ratings
Airplane

File No. 23688 01/13/2005 Swanzey,NH Aircraft Reg No. N49BA Time (Local): 22:15 EST Make/Model: Embraer/EMB-110P1 Fatal Serious Minor/None Engine Make/Model: Pratt & Whitney Canada / PT6A-36 Crew 1 0 0 Aircraft Damage: Destroyed Pass 0 0 0 Number of Engines: 2 Operating Certificate(s): Cargo; On-demand Air Taxi Name of Carrier Business Air Inc. Type of Flight Operation: Non-scheduled; Domestic; Cargo Reg. Flight Conducted Under: Part 135; Air Taxi & Commuter Last Depart, Point: Bangor, ME Condition of Light: Night Destination: Same as Accident/Incident Location Weather Info Src: Weather Observation Facility Airport Proximity: On Airport/Airstrip Basic Weather: Instrument Conditions Airport Name: Dillant-Hopkins Lowest Ceiling: 100 Ft. AGL, Overcast Runway Identification: 02 Visibility: 1.00 SM Runway Length/Width (Ft): 6201 / 100 Wind Dir/Speed: 350 / 003 kts Runway Surface: Asphalt Temperature (°C): 2 Precip/Obscuration: Fog Runway Surface Condition: Unknown Pilot-in-Command Age: 46 Flight Time (Hours) Certificate(s)/Rating(s) Total All Aircraft: 2292 Airline Transport; Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea Last 90 Days: 120 Total Make/Model: 338

*** Note: NTSB investigators either traveled in support of this investigation or conducted a significant amount of investigative work without any travel, and used data obtained from various sources to prepare this aircraft accident report. ***

En route to the company's home airport, the twin-engine airplane either experienced a loss of power to the right engine, or the pilot decided to shut the engine down. Although the home airport had night visual meteorological conditions, and there was no evidence of any malfunction with the remaining engine, the pilot opted to fly a night precision instrument approach to an airport 45 nautical miles closer, with a 1-mile visibility and a 100-foot ceiling. Unknown to the pilot, there was also fog at the airport. The pilot did not advise or seek assistance from air traffic control or the company. When the airplane broke out of the clouds, it was not stable. Approaching the runway, at full flaps and exceeding the 25 percent maximum for a go-around, the pilot added full power to the left engine. The high power setting, slow airspeed, and full flaps combination resulted in a minimum control speed (Vmc) roll. No determination could be made as to why the right engine was inoperative, and there were no mechanical or fuel-related anomalies found that would have precluded normal operation.

Brief of Accident (Continued)

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Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER

Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

1. (F) 1 ENGINE

- 2. REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED
- 3. (F) PROPER ASSISTANCE NOT OBTAINED PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Findings

- 4. (C) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION IMPROPER PILOT IN COMMAND
- 5. AIRSPEED(VMC) NOT MAINTAINED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 6. (F) WEATHER CONDITION FOG
- 7. FLAPS EXCESSIVE PILOT IN COMMAND
- 8. (F) WEATHER CONDITION LOW CEILING
- 9. MANEUVER INADVERTENT PILOT IN COMMAND
- 10. (F) LIGHT CONDITION NIGHT
- 11. (F) WEATHER EVALUATION INCORRECT PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

12. TERRAIN CONDITION - RUNWAY

Findings Legend: (C) = Cause, (F) = Factor

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows:
The pilot's improper decision to attempt a single-engine missed approach with the airplane in a slow airspeed, full flap configuration, which resulted in a minimum control speed (Vmc) roll. Contributing factors included an inoperative engine for undetermined reasons, the pilot's in-flight decision to divert to an airport with low ceilings and visibility while better conditions existed elsewhere, the pilot's failure to advise or seek assistance from air traffic control or his company, and the low cloud ceilings, fog, and night lighting conditions.