

# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: SAINT GEORGE, Utah Accident Number: DEN89FA076

Date & Time: February 10, 1989, 17:25 Local Registration: N1010Z

Aircraft: SWEARINGEN SA226TC Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** Injuries: 6 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Positioning

### **Analysis**

DRG THE TAKEOFF ROLL WITH THE COPLT AT THE CTLS, THE ACFT BEGAN TURNING TO THE LEFT. THE COPLT CORRECTED WITH RGT RUDDER, BUT AS THE TAKEOFF CONTD, THE ACFT VEERED UNCONTROLLABLY TO THE LEFT. THE TAKEOFF WAS ABORTED, BUT BEFORE STOPPING, THE ACFT TURNED FURTHER LEFT & HIT A CESSNA 172 & A UPS VEHICLE, BOTH OF WHICH WERE UNOCCUPIED. THIS WAS THE 1ST FLT AFTER MAINT ON THE NOSEWHEEL STEERING SYS. A SYS CHECK REVEALED THAT WHEN HYDRAULIC & ELECTRICAL PWR WERE APPLIED, THE NOSEWHEEL STEERING SYS WOULD DEFLECT TO THE LEFT AT A RATE OF ABOUT ONE DEGREE PER SECOND. INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT WHEN MAINT WAS PERFORMED, A ONE-PIECE ARMING/POPPET VLV WAS USED TO REPLACE A TWO-PIECE VLV, WHICH WAS PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED. DRG THE INSTLN, THE SMALL PART OF THE TWO-PIECE VLV (ABT THE SIZE OF A WASHER) WAS NOT REMOVED. WHEN THE ONE-PIECE VLV WAS INSTLD PROPERLY, THE SYS OPERD NORMALLY. MAINT INSTRNS & DRAWINGS DID NOT ADDRESS THE TWO-PIECE VLV & NO INSTRNS WERE FND TO INDC THE TWO PIECES OF THE OLD VLV SHOULD BE CHGD AS A PACKAGE.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: MALFUNCTION OF THE NOSEWHEEL STEERING SYSTEM DUE TO IMPROPER INSTALLATION OF THE NOSEWHEEL STEERING POPPET VALVE & INADEQUATE MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS.

#### **Findings**

Occurrence #1: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF

#### **Findings**

1. (C) LANDING GEAR, STEERING SYSTEM - INCORRECT

2. (C) MAINTENANCE, REPLACEMENT - IMPROPER - COMPANY MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

3. (C) PROCEDURE INADEQUATE - MANUFACTURER

4. CONDITION(S)/STEP(S) INSUFFICIENTLY DEFINED

------

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

#### **Findings**

5. DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED

6. GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - UNCONTROLLED

-----

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ABORTED

#### **Findings**

7. OBJECT - AIRCRAFT PARKED/STANDING

8. OBJECT - VEHICLE

Page 2 of 6 DEN89FA076

## **Factual Information**

### **Pilot Information**

| Certificate:              | Airline transport  | Age:                              | 40,Female         |
|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Airplane Rating(s):       | Single-engine land; Multi-engine land  | Seat Occupied:                    | Left              |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | None   | Restraint Used:                   |                   |
| Instrument Rating(s):     | Airplane   | Second Pilot Present:             | Yes               |
| Instructor Rating(s):     | Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine  | Toxicology Performed:             | Yes               |
| Medical Certification:    | Class 1 Valid Medicalno waivers/lim.   | Last FAA Medical Exam:            | November 17, 1988 |
| Occupational Pilot:       | Yes  | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: |                   |
| Flight Time:              | 7282 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1825 hours (Total, this make and model), 4736 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 148 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 55 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) |                                   |                   |

Page 3 of 6 DEN89FA076

### **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

| Aircraft Make:                | SWEARINGEN                                | Registration:                     | N1010Z                     |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Model/Series:                 | SA226TC SA226TC                           | Aircraft Category:                | Airplane                   |
| Year of Manufacture:          |   | Amateur Built:                    |                            |
| Airworthiness Certificate:    | Normal                                    | Serial Number:                    | TC-373                     |
| Landing Gear Type:            | Retractable - Tricycle                    | Seats:                            | 19                         |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | February 7, 1989 Continuous airworthiness | Certified Max Gross Wt.:          | 12500 lbs                  |
| Time Since Last Inspection:   | 2 Hrs                                     | Engines:                          | 2 Turbo prop               |
| Airframe Total Time:          | 16361 Hrs                                 | Engine Manufacturer:              | AIRESEARCH                 |
| ELT:                          | Installed, not activated                  | Engine Model/Series:              | TPE-331                    |
| Registered Owner:             | SKYWEST AIRLINES, INC.                    | Rated Power:                      | 940 Horsepower             |
| Operator:                     |   | Operating Certificate(s)<br>Held: | Commuter air carrier (135) |
| Operator Does Business As:    |   | Operator Designator Code:         | SWIA                       |

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

| Conditions at Accident Site:     | Visual (VMC)                 | Condition of Light:                  | Day              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | SGU ,2939 ft msl             | Distance from Accident Site:         | 1 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time:                | 17:40 Local                  | Direction from Accident Site:        |                  |
| <b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>   | Scattered / 6000 ft AGL      | Visibility                           | 20 miles         |
| Lowest Ceiling:                  | None                         | Visibility (RVR):                    |                  |
| Wind Speed/Gusts:                | /                            | Turbulence Type<br>Forecast/Actual:  | /                |
| Wind Direction:                  | 0°                           | Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: | /                |
| Altimeter Setting:               | 30 inches Hg                 | Temperature/Dew Point:               | 8°C              |
| Precipitation and Obscuration:   | No Obscuration; No Precipita | ition                                |                  |
| Departure Point:                 | (SGU)                        | Type of Flight Plan Filed:           | IFR              |
| Destination:                     | PALM SPRINGS , CA (PSP<br>)  | Type of Clearance:                   | IFR              |
| Departure Time:                  | 17:25 Local                  | Type of Airspace:                    | Class D          |

Page 4 of 6 DEN89FA076

### **Airport Information**

| Airport:             | SAINT GEORGE SGU | Runway Surface Type:             | Asphalt |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Airport Elevation:   | 2939 ft msl      | <b>Runway Surface Condition:</b> | Dry     |
| Runway Used:         | 16               | IFR Approach:                    | None    |
| Runway Length/Width: | 6100 ft / 100 ft | VFR Approach/Landing:            | None    |

## Wreckage and Impact Information

| Crew Injuries:         | 2 None | Aircraft Damage:        | Substantial              |
|------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Passenger<br>Injuries: | 4 None | Aircraft Fire:          | None                     |
| Ground Injuries:       | N/A    | Aircraft Explosion:     | None                     |
| Total Injuries:        | 6 None | Latitude,<br>Longitude: | 37.1804,-113.600028(est) |

Page 5 of 6 DEN89FA076

#### **Administrative Information**

| Investigator In Charge (IIC): Wiemeyer, Norman  Additional Participating JAMES R BANNISTER; FORT WORTH , TX Persons: FRANK CHRIST; SAN ANTONIO , TX SAM SHAN; SALT LAKE CITY , UT  Original Publish Date: April 24, 1990 |                               |  |  |
|--|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Persons:  FRANK CHRIST; SAN ANTONIO , TX SAM SHAN; SALT LAKE CITY , UT  Original Publish Date:  April 24, 1990   | Investigator In Charge (IIC): | Wiemeyer, Norman                             |  |
|  |                               | FRANK CHRIST; SAN ANTONIO , TX               |  |
|  | Original Publish Date:        | April 24, 1990                               |  |
| Last Revision Date:  | Last Revision Date:           |  |  |
| Investigation Class: <u>Class</u>  | Investigation Class:          | <u>Class</u>                                 |  |
| Note:  | Note:                         |  |  |
| Investigation Docket: <a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=17580">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=17580</a>  | Investigation Docket:         | https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=17580 |  |

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b) is available here.

Page 6 of 6 DEN89FA076