



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	West Ossipee, New Hampshire	Accident Number:	IAD04CA010
Date & Time:	February 11, 2004, 18:35 Local	Registration:	N2634A
Aircraft:	Piper PA-20	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot made a night landing on a runway covered with compacted snow. Winds were estimated to be about 20 degrees from the right. The touchdown was normal; however, during the rollout, the pilot lost visual reference to the runway lights due to snow banks along both sides of the runway. The airplane drifted left and subsequently impacted the snow bank on the left side of the runway.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inability to maintain runway alignment during the landing rollout. Factors included the night lighting conditions and the snow banks that prevented visual reference to the runway lights.

Findings

Occurrence #1: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. TERRAIN CONDITION - SNOWBANK
2. (C) PROPER ALIGNMENT - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - NIGHT
4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - SNOWBANK



Factual Information

On February 11, 2004, at 1835 eastern standard time, a Piper PA-20, N2634A, was substantially damaged during a landing at Windsock Village Airport (NH69), West Ossipee, New Hampshire. The certificated airline transport pilot was not injured. Night visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan had been filed for the flight, which departed Great Barrington Airport (GBR), Great Barrington, Massachusetts. The personal flight was conducted under 14 CFR Part 91.

According to the pilot, he landed on runway 33, which was covered with compacted snow at the time. Winds were estimated to be from 350 degrees at 10 to 15 knots. The touchdown was normal; however, during the landing rollout, the pilot lost visual reference to the runway lights due to snow banks along both sides of the runway. The airplane drifted left, and subsequently impacted the snow bank on the left side of the runway.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport	Age:	67, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land; Multi-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	October 31, 2003
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	24055 hours (Total, all aircraft), 361 hours (Total, this make and model), 31 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N2634A
Model/Series:	PA-20	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	20-947
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1950 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A2B
Registered Owner:	William E. Clegg	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Night
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Grt Barrington, MA (GBR)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	West Ossipee, NH (NH69)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:05 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	WINDSOCK VILLAGE NH69	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	33	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	43.823612,-71.186668

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Cox, Paul
Additional Participating Persons:	FAA/FSDO; Portland, ME
Original Publish Date:	September 1, 2004
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=58740

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