



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Fresno, California	<b>Accident Number:</b>	WPR09CA011
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	October 11, 2008, 17:45 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N2572N
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper PA-38-112	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Collision during takeoff/land	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Minor
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

## Analysis

While on final for landing, the landing gear of the airplane struck a semi truck that was traveling on a road perpendicular to the runway at the approach end. The pilot had performed 10 full stop landings at the accident airport and was on approach for the 11th landing when the accident occurred. After impacting the trailer, the airplane landed on its belly and came to rest short of the runway. The pilot stated that the accident could have been prevented had he flown a higher approach. The driver and passenger in the vehicle stated that they had observed the airplane flying toward them and that it appeared low. Even though the airplane seemed low, the vehicle occupants thought it would clear the truck's trailer.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain a proper glide path while on final approach.

## Findings

<b>Environmental issues</b>	Ground vehicle - Contributed to outcome
<b>Aircraft</b>	Glide - Not attained/maintained
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Incorrect action performance - Pilot

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Approach-VFR pattern final</b>	Collision during takeoff/land (Defining event)
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### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	21, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Without waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	September 28, 2007
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	September 9, 2008
<b>Flight Time:</b>	184 hours (Total, all aircraft), 125 hours (Total, this make and model), 109 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 35 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 22 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Piper	<b>Registration:</b>	N2572N
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA-38-112	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	3879A0925
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	September 15, 2008 100 hour	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1670 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	5501 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	as of last inspection	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-235-L2C
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	Golden Eagle Enterprises, Inc.	<b>Rated Power:</b>	112 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	Golden Eagle Enterprises, Inc.	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>	Mazzei Flying Service	<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	FAT,336 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	8 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	17:53 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	100°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Few / 10000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	10 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	300°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29.9 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	18°C / -7°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Fresno, CA (FCH )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Fresno, CA (FCH )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	14:30 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Sierra Sky Park Airport E79	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	30	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	2920 ft / 50 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	36.842267,-119.87417(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Cornejo, Tealeye
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	James Henry; Federal Aviation Administration; Fresno, CA
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	November 5, 2008
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=69276">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=69276</a>

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