



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Durango, Colorado Accident Number: CEN09CA213

Date & Time: March 11, 2009, 19:06 Local Registration: N8245H

Aircraft: Beech 58 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Hard landing **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Instructional

Analysis

Shortly after takeoff in the twin-engine airplane, the flight instructor announced a simulated engine failure and expected the student pilot to land on the remaining runway. The student pilot responded by reducing both engines to idle power, but did not pitch the airplane's nose down enough to maintain sufficient airspeed. The flight instructor responded by lowering the airplane's nose to the proper attitude before releasing the controls. Moments later the flight instructor realized that the student pilot was not arresting the rate of descent and was unable to react in time to prevent a hard landing. The airplane's fuselage and right wing sustained structural damage during the accident.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The student pilot's improper landing flare and the flight instructor's delayed remedial action.

Findings

Personnel issues

Delayed action - Instructor/check pilot

Aircraft

Landing flare - Incorrect use/operation

Personnel issues

Aircraft control - Student/instructed pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Hard landing (Defining event)	
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Flight instructor Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Flight instructor	Age:	41,Male
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; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 31, 2007
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	August 22, 2008
Flight Time:	2750 hours (Total, all aircraft), 80 hours (Total, this make and model), 2400 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 100 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 40 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Student pilot Information

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Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	35,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 19, 2007
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	February 27, 2009
Flight Time:	226 hours (Total, all aircraft), 5 hours (Total, this make and model), 159 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Beech	Registration:	N8245H
Model/Series:	58	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	TH-1635
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	November 21, 2008 Continuous airworthiness	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	14224 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-550 SERIES
Registered Owner:	SAN JUAN PILOT TRAINING INC	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:	SAN JUAN PILOT TRAINING INC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 9500 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 9500 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	6 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	160°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.03 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	10°C / -9°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Durango, CO (DRO)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Durango, CO (DRO)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	19:04 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	Durango-La Plata County DRO	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	6685 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	21	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	9201 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	37.150833,-107.75222(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	LeBaron, Timothy
Additional Participating Persons:	Eric McRae; Federal Aviation Administration; Salt Lake City, UT
Original Publish Date:	June 11, 2009
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=73498

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.

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