



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Terrell, Texas	Accident Number:	CEN09CA484
Date & Time:	August 1, 2009, 10:40 Local	Registration:	N8602C
Aircraft:	Piper PA22	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

According to the pilot, during his approach to land he observed thunderstorms in the vicinity of the airport and observed moisture on the windscreen of the airplane. He elected to continue the approach and encountered strong turbulence during the base and final legs of the approach. During the turbulent encounter on short final, the airplane was turned 30 degrees to the right of runway heading and the nose was forced upward. The pilot regained control of the airplane and landed firmly on the runway surface. The airplane departed the left side of the runway, the left wing "dug" into the grass surface, cartwheeled, and came to rest inverted. The outboard four feet of the left wing and the firewall of the airplane were bent. According to the pilot and a Federal Aviation Administration inspector, there were no mechanical anomalies with the airplane. Witnesses observing the flight indicated that the wind shifted from a right quartering head wind to a right quartering tail wind and increased in velocity while the airplane was on short final.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's improper decision to continue the approach and landing during thunderstorm activity, resulting in the loss of aircraft control.

Findings

Environmental issues	Thunderstorm - Effect on operation
Personnel issues	Decision making/judgment - Pilot
Environmental issues	Thunderstorm - Decision related to condition
Aircraft	(general) - Not attained/maintained

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Windshear or thunderstorm
Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	68, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	July 2, 2009
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	July 30, 2009
Flight Time:	572 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3 hours (Total, this make and model), 572 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N8602C
Model/Series:	PA22 135	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	221282
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	July 30, 2009 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1950 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1986 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O290-02
Registered Owner:	Alvin L. Good	Rated Power:	135 Horsepower
Operator:	Alvin L. Good	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KTRL	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	12:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots / 14 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	240°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	31°C / 23°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Seguin, TX (E70)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Terrell, TX (TRL)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	08:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Terrell Municipal Airport TRL	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	474 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Unknown
Runway Used:	17	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5006 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	32.709167,-96.267219

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Rodi, Jennifer
Additional Participating Persons:	Benoit O LaFargue; Federal Aviation Administration; Dallas, TX
Original Publish Date:	October 19, 2009
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=74429

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