



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	SAN ANTONIO, TX	Accident Number:	FTW82FA137
Date & Time:	04/18/1982, 2017 CST	Registration:	N3580D
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-31-350	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	3 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Executive/Corporate		

Analysis

THE PILOT WAS TRYING TO LAND AFTER BOTH ENGINES FAILED DURING TAKEOFF AFTER THE AIRCRAFT WAS REFUELED WITH JET FUEL INSTEAD OF GASOLINE. THE WEATHER WAS IFR WITH FOG, LOW CEILING AND RAIN. THE AIRCRAFT COLLIDED WITH TREES DURING A FORCED LANDING AND WAS DESTROYED BY FIRE AFTER IMPACT.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - IMPROPER
 2. (C) MAINTENANCE,SERVICE OF AIRCRAFT/EQUIPMENT - IMPROPER - FBO PERSONNEL
 3. (C) INADEQUATE TRAINING - COMPANY/OPERATOR MANAGEMENT
 4. (C) ANNUNCIATOR PANEL LIGHT(S) - IMPROPER
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - TURN TO LANDING AREA (EMERGENCY)

Findings

5. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
 6. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
 7. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
 8. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)
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Occurrence #4: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Flight Instructor	Age:	38, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	03/02/1982
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N3580D
Model/Series:	PA-31-350 PA-31-350	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	31-8052084
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	8
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	7000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	0 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	650 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	TSIO-540J
Registered Owner:	TRIANGLE "T" LEASING	Rated Power:	350 hp
Operator:	SAN JET INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SAT, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1953	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	1 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 400 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	80°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	66° C / 0° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	SAN ANTONIO, TX (SAT)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	MIDLAND, TX (C)	Type of Clearance:	Traffic Advisory
Departure Time:	2014	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	SAN ANTONIO INTERNATIONAL (SAT)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	0 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Wet
Runway Used:	12	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	8500 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	On-Ground
Total Injuries:	3 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Report Date:	04/18/1983
Additional Participating Persons:		
Publish Date:		
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/ .	

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).