



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	PANAMA CITY, FL	Accident Number:	DEN93FA031
Date & Time:	03/03/1993, 0658 CST	Registration:	N90399
Aircraft:	Smith, Ted Aerostar AEROSTAR 600	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Analysis

THE FLIGHT HAD BEEN CLEARED FOR THE VOR-A APPROACH, WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO CIRCLE TO A RIGHT DOWNWIND AND LAND ON RUNWAY 14. THE TOWER CONTROLLER OBSERVED THE AIRPLANE EMERGE FROM THE OVERCAST OVER RUNWAY 23 ABEAM THE VOR, THEN MAKE A TIGHT RIGHT TURN ONTO THE DOWNWIND LEG, PARALLEL TO RUNWAY 14 AND CLOSE IN. WHEN THE AIRPLANE WAS ABEAM THE RUNWAY 14 THRESHOLD, SHE OBSERVED THE NOSE PITCH UP, AND THE AIRPLANE DID WHAT SHE DESCRIBED AS A WING OVER. IT THEN DOVE AND IMPACTED THE RUNWAY NEAR THE THRESHOLD. THE CONTROLLER STATED THAT THE PILOT MADE THIS ROUND TRIP EVERY DAY, AND SHE HAD SEEN HIM DO THIS MANEUVER ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S POORLY PLANNED APPROACH TO THE RUNWAY FOLLOWING AN INSTRUMENT APPROACH RESULTING IN A LOSS OF CONTROL.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - BASE LEG/BASE TO FINAL

Findings

1. (C) PLANNED APPROACH - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) AIRSPEED - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. STALL - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - BASE LEG/BASE TO FINAL

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	28, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	02/08/1993
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	2550 hours (Total, all aircraft), 312 hours (Total, this make and model), 318 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Smith, Ted Aerostar	Registration:	N90399
Model/Series:	AEROSTAR 600 AEROSTAR 6	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	60-0226-096
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	02/15/1993, AAIP	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	58 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6952 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540-K1F5
Registered Owner:	CHEROKEE LEASING, INC.	Rated Power:	290 hp
Operator:	CHEROKEE LEASING, INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand Air Taxi (135)
Operator Does Business As:	CHEROKEE EXPRESS AIR CARGO	Operator Designator Code:	HZTA

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0000	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Partial Obscuration / 0 ft agl	Visibility	2 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 800 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	16° C / 16° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	TALLAHASSEE, FL (TLH)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	0700 EST	Type of Airspace:	Class D; Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	PANAMA CITY-BAY COUNTY (PFN)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	21 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Wet
Runway Used:	14	IFR Approach:	VOR
Runway Length/Width:	6304 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic Pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	ARNOLD W SCOTT	Report Date:	02/28/1994
Additional Participating Persons:	RODGER L HOLMSTROM; BIRMINGHAM, AL		
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.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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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](#).