

National Transportation Safety Board  
Washington, DC 20594

Brief of Accident

Adopted 09/29/2004

LAX02LA037  
File No. 16311                      12/02/2001                      Long Beach, CA                      Aircraft Reg No. N50554                      Time (Local): 11:21 PST

Make/Model:	Bellanca / 8KCAB	Fatal	0	Serious	1	Minor/None	1
Engine Make/Model:	Lycoming / AEIO-360-HIA	Crew	0				
Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed	Pass	0		0		0
Number of Engines:	1						
Operating Certificate(s):	None						
Type of Flight Operation:	Instructional						
Reg. Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation						

Last Depart. Point:	Long Beach, CA	Condition of Light:	Day
Destination:	Local Flight	Weather Info Src:	Weather Observation Facility
Airport Proximity:	Off Airport/Airstrip	Basic Weather:	Visual Conditions
		Lowest Ceiling:	None
		Visibility:	10.00 SM
		Wind Dir/Speed:	180 / 005 Kts
		Temperature (°C):	16
		Precip/Obscuration:	None / None

Pilot-in-Command	Age: 54	Flight Time (Hours)
Certificate(s)/Rating(s)		Total All Aircraft: 10000
Airline Transport; Flight Instructor; Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea		Last 90 Days: 180
Instrument Ratings		Total Make/Model: 800
Airplane		Total Instrument Time: 300

The airplane impacted the ocean in an uncontrolled descent after experiencing a loss of control while maneuvering. The certified flight instructor (CFI) demonstrated a 4-point roll and transferred control of the airplane to the pilot under instruction (PUI) so that he could demonstrate the maneuver. Shortly after transferring control, the airplane's nose pitched down 20-30 degrees. The PUI asked the CFI if he was causing the nose to pitch down, to which the CFI responded in the negative. The CFI attempted to correct the nose down pitch but the control stick had no effect and the trim would not budge. Both the CFI and the PUI bailed out of the airplane before it impacted the ocean. The airplane was not recovered, and the reason for the loss of control was not determined.

Brief of Accident (Continued)

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Occurrence #1:    LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT  
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED
2. BAIL-OUT/EMERGENCY EJECTION - PERFORMED - FLIGHTCREW

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Occurrence #2:    IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

3. TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER

Findings Legend: (C) = Cause, (F) = Factor

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The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows.  
the loss of aircraft control while maneuvering for undetermined reasons.