

National Transportation Safety Board  
Washington, DC 20594

Brief of Accident

Adopted 06/08/2005

DFW05LA041  
File No. 17724                      12/19/2004                      Texas City, TX                      Aircraft Reg No. N992RS                      Time (Local): 12:42 CST

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Make/Model:	American Champion Aircraft / 8KCAB	Fatal	0	Serious	1	Minor/None	0
Engine Make/Model:	Lycoming / AEIO-360-H1A	Crew	0				
Aircraft Damage:	Substantial	Pass	0		1		0
Number of Engines:	1						
Operating Certificate(s):	None						
Type of Flight Operation:	Personal						
Reg. Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation						

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Last Depart. Point:	La Porte, TX	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:	350 / 009 Kts
		Temperature (°C):	17
		Precip/Obscuration:	None / None

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Pilot-in-Command	Age: 30	Flight Time (Hours)
Certificate(s)/Rating(s)		Total All Aircraft: 370
Private; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea; Glider		Last 90 Days: Unk/Nr
Instrument Ratings		Total Make/Model: Unk/Nr
Airplane		Total Instrument Time: Unk/Nr

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A witness located adjacent to the accident site reported observing the 370-hour private pilot flying inverted at an altitude of approximately 50 feet above ground level for a distance of 250 yards. As the pilot attempted to roll the airplane upright, one of the wings impacted the ground. Examination of the airframe did not reveal any anomalies that could have contributed to the accident.

Brief of Accident (Continued)

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Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (C) AEROBATICS - ATTEMPTED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) ALTITUDE - LOW - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) ALTITUDE/CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. TERRAIN CONDITION - OPEN FIELD

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 pilot's failure to maintain clearance with terrain while performing aerobatics at a low altitude.