



The National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Aviation Safety
Central Region
Memorandum for the Record
Summary of Weather Study
CEN20FA075
Chatham, Louisiana
February 6, 2020

Review of the Meteorological Weather Study indicated the following factual conditions.

- The observations indicated marginal visual meteorological conditions (MVMC) to instrument meteorological conditions (IMC) prevailed along the route and in the immediate vicinity of the accident site, which was in the cold air sector behind a cold front which had moved through the area.
 - The HRRR model sounding over the accident site supported low clouds with tops near 6,000 ft with conditions favorable for light to moderate icing conditions in the clouds.
 - A review of the pilot reports (PIREPS) indicated that prior to the accident, there were only a few reports of light icing reported prior to the accident airplane's departure. The accident pilot's report to ATC of encountering icing and his request for a lower altitude and divert to Ruston Regional Airport (RUS) was the 1st report of icing in over 2 hours. However, there were many PIREPS of icing in the area immediately after the accident occurred.
 - The NWS Aviation Weather Center had AIRMETs current for the route for IFR and occasional moderate icing conditions.
 - There was no record of the pilot obtaining any weather briefing through normal sources, and unknown what the pilot was familiar with prior to departure.
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