



NTSB National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Aviation Safety

**Executive Airlines
dba American Eagle
Flight 5401
ATR-72**

San Juan, Puerto Rico

May 9, 2004



NTSB Staff

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Office of Aviation Safety

- Six major investigations started
- Four major reports completed
- 45 safety recommendations issued
- 332 regional investigations
- 15 foreign investigations

Parties to the Investigation

- Federal Aviation Administration
- Executive Airlines
- Air Line Pilots Association
- Association of Flight Attendants

Accredited Representatives

- Bureau d'Enquêtes et d'Analyses pour la Sécurité de l'Aviation Civile (BEA)
 - Technical assistance by Avions de Transport Regional (ATR)
- Transportation Safety Board of Canada (TSB)
 - Technical assistance by Pratt & Whitney Canada



American

N438AT

Go-Team Launch

- Partial go-team
- Arrived about 0230 local time
- Flight recorders recovered and sent to Safety Board headquarters

History of Flight

- Departed Mayagüez for San Juan about 1415
- First officer pilot flying
- Captain pilot not flying
- Captain instructed first officer
- Takeoff, climb, and en route portions uneventful

History of Flight

- Flight cleared for landing
- Airplane skipped after touchdown
- Captain took control of airplane
- Airplane bounced twice then crashed

001 Feet

109 Knots

14:49:36

HOT-1 now start (walking) it back *

NTSB



Select Camera:

Camera # 5

Fast
4x

Playback
Speed
1 x

Slow
1/4x



Sun May 09 14:48:43 2004

Sun May 09 14:52:00 2004

Sun May 09 14:55:54 2004

Start Time

Time Index

End Time

GATE 05

Stopped

NTSC

Play Once

Exclusions

- Weather not a factor
- Wake turbulence not a factor
- Weight and balance not a factor
- No preexisting mechanical, structural, or engine failures

Significant Findings

- Flight crew could have recovered landing after skip
- Captain made inappropriate pitch and power inputs after takeover

Safety Issues

- Flight crew performance
- Lack of bounced landing recovery guidance and training
- Malfunctioning flight control position sensors



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