



J10/2/7027

A99-036

SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Accident	3 rd April 1999	Time of Accident	0914Z		
Aircraft Registration	ZS-PEW	Type of Aircraft	Beech A36 (Bonanza)		
Name of Owner		Name and Number of Operator			
Mr. S C Schoeman		Not Applicable (Private)			
Pilot-in-command Licence No.	PA	Age	42	Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours		114.3	Hours on Type	79.1
Last point of departure	Klerksdorp - Darlington Dam				
Next point of intended landing	Paradise Beach (near Jeffreys Bay)				
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (plus GPS readings if possible)					
7 nm north-west of Port Elizabeth					
Meteorological Information	Wind 100°/04 kts, scattered cloud 900 feet and overcast 2500 feet with recent rain.				
Number of people on board	One	No. of people injured	None	No. of people killed	One
Synopsis	<p>The pilot was en route from Klerksdorp to Paradise Beach near Jeffreys Bay on a VFR flight plan. Due to IMC conditions prevailing along the coast he was advised by ATC to land at Darlington Dam until weather conditions along the coast improved.</p> <p>The pilot did land at Darlington Dam and remained on the ground for between one and two hours. He then took-off and proceeded to Paradise Beach. He was radar identified on the transponder code 6115 with no mode C (height) readout available. He encountered low clouds en route and was advised by ATC to land at Uitenhage or to execute a 180° turn and proceed back to Darlington Dam. He did advise ATC that he was getting low on fuel and that the cloud kept on coming in, and was unable to maintain visual reference to the ground.</p> <p>He was then advised to fly to Port Elizabeth but radar contact was lost with the aircraft approximately 7nm north-west of Port Elizabeth. A Detresfa was activated and the aircraft wreckage located by the SAPS approximately 45 minutes later.</p> <p>The pilot held a private pilot's license without any ratings.</p>				
Probable Cause					
On a VFR flight the non-instrument rated pilot entered instrument meteorological conditions. In an attempt to remain VFR, he failed to maintain adequate terrain clearance resulting in the aircraft colliding with terrain.					