A00-067-7209



SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Accident	11 June 2000	Time of Accident		0807Z		
Aircraft Registration	ZS-RFY	Type of Aircraft		Robinson R22		
Pilot-in-command Licence Type		Private		Licence Valid	Yes	
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience		Total Flying Hours	328.0	Total Hours on Type	23.4	
Type of Operation		Private				
Last point of departure		Virginia Airport				
Next point of intended landing		Virginia Airport				

Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (plus GPS readings if possible)

On Aerodrome (Virginia)

Meteorological Information	Fine, Wind 070° / 6kt					
Number of people on board	1 + 1	No. of people injured	None	No. of people killed	None	
Synopsis						

According to the pilot, "I arrived at Virginia Airport on the Sunday morning 11 June 2000 at about 0730Z (09h30) to do a bit of general flying. I pushed the aircraft out of the hangar to the heliport position.

I then did a complete pre-flight inspection. My granddaughter and I then climbed into the aircraft, fastened seat belts etc. and requested start-up from the control tower.

After receiving start clearance, I started the aircraft and did all checks. After I was satisfied that everything was okay, I then requested take-off from the control tower.

During take-off aircraft experienced roll and yaw to the right. I tried to counter with cyclic and yaw pedal without success. Aircraft ended up on its side."

Probable Cause

The pilot experienced a sudden gust of wind from the left on lift-off, which he did not, anticipated. In an attempt to counteract the condition the pilot applied the incorrect rudder and cyclic input, which aggravated the condition from which he was unable to recover due to insufficient height available.