



SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Accident	3/6/2000	Time of Accident	0700Z		
Aircraft Registration	ZS-RBR	Type of Aircraft	Robinson R22		
Pilot-in-command Licence Type	Private		Licence Valid	Yes	
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	3834.00	Total Hours on Type	3699.00	
Type of Operation	Private				
Last point of departure	Vaalwater				
Next point of intended landing	Vaalwater				
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (plus GPS readings if possible)					
Field					
Meteorological Information	The weather was fine, the temperature 12°C and the surface wind conditions north-easterly at 3 kt				
Number of people on board	1+1	No. of people injured	Nil	No. of people killed	Nil
Synopsis	<p>The pilot stated that after take off from Vaalwater and whilst flying in a Westerly direction, the engine suddenly stopped at approximately 1000 ft agl. He then immediately proceeded to carry out an auto-rotation and successfully re-started the engine at approximately 600 ft agl. However, shortly after, the engine stopped again and the pilot landed the helicopter on an open field. The main rotor blades made contact with the tail boom and a piece of the tail boom and tail rotor was severed from the helicopter. There were no injuries.</p>				
Probable Cause					
<p>1) The pilot carried out an auto-rotational landing onto an open field, but upon landing the main rotor made contact with the tail boom and a piece of the tail boom and tail rotor were severed from the helicopter.</p> <p>2) The cause of the engine failure could not be conclusively determined.</p>					