

Ref: 7369

**SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY**  
**ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

<b>Aircraft Registration</b>	ZS-VIZ	<b>Date of Accident</b>	27 June 2001	<b>Time of Accident</b>	1200Z
<b>Type of Aircraft</b>	PIETENPOL AIRCAMPER	<b>Type of Operation</b>		Private	
<b>Pilot-in-command Licence Type</b>	Airline Transport	<b>Age</b>	40	<b>Licence Valid</b>	Yes
<b>Pilot-in-command Flying Experience</b>	Total Flying Hours	8350		Hours on Type	4.5
<b>Last point of departure</b>	Runway 21 Petit aerodrome				
<b>Next point of intended landing</b>	Petit aerodrome				
<b>Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)</b>					
Ploughed field adjacent to Runway 03					
<b>Meteorological Information</b>	CAVOK Wind: 240° 5-10 Knots				
<b>Number of people on board</b>	1+1	<b>No. of people injured</b>	Nil	<b>No. of people killed</b>	Nil
<b>Synopsis</b>	<p>The owner of the aircraft had recently purchased the aircraft and had approached the pilot to demonstrate the aircraft to him. On the day of the accident the pilot did one solo flight to familiarize himself with the aircraft. He then took the owner, and both the owner's daughter and son on separate flights. It was during the fourth flight with the owner's son as passenger that the accident occurred.</p> <p>The pilot took off on Runway 21 and turned to the left to avoid the row of trees to the south of the field. During this "crosswind" leg the aircraft started to gradually descend. The pilot then turned "down-wind" during which the aircraft still descended at full power. The pilot then executed a forced landing on a ploughed field to the East of Runway 21.</p> <p>The right main gear and right hand wing and strut were damaged during the landing. No injuries were sustained in the accident.</p> <p>According to the pilot, the engine seemed to develop full power at all times and he stated that he must have experienced wind shear or a strong down draught that caused the aircraft to descend.</p>				
<b>Probable Cause</b>					
It is possible that a strong down-draught exceeded the aircraft's climbing ability and resulted in a forced landing.					