



Ref: 7403

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

Aircraft Registration	ZS-RCF	Date of Accident	17 September 2001	Time of Accident	1005Z
Type of Aircraft	ENSTROM F28C		Type of Operation	Training	
Pilot-in-command Licence Type	Student Pilot	Age	23	Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	45	Hours on Type	45	
Last point of departure	Wonderboom Aerodrome				
Next point of intended landing	Wonderboom Aerodrome				
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)					
Approximately 200m East of Runway 06 at the helicopter training area, Wonderboom Aerodrome					
Meteorological Information	CAVOK, Wind: NE at 5 knots				
Number of people on board	1 + 0	No. of people injured	Nil	No. of people killed	Nil
Synopsis	<p>During the student pilot's second solo flight, when he had to transit from the approach phase into hover flight, he advanced the throttle but did not adjust the collective pitch lever. The engine RPM increased where after the student decreased the engine power slightly and also slightly lowered the collective pitch. The student pilot then apparently lost control of the helicopter and apparently "froze" on the controls. The helicopter yawed through approximately one full rotation ($\pm 360^\circ$) to the left and impacted the ground at a considerable vertical rate of descent.</p> <p>The helicopter was substantially damaged during the hard landing. The pilot escaped uninjured.</p> <p>The overrun clutch was removed, inspected and it was found serviceable.</p>				
Probable Cause					
<p>The student pilot applied the wrong technique during his approach by advancing the throttle and lowering the collective pitch when he should have increased the collective pitch. Approximately 60ft agl he froze on the controls which resulted in an uncontrolled hard landing.</p>					