

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

Aircraft Registration	ZS-WIU	Date of Accident	14/12/2001	Time of Accident	0540Z
Type of Aircraft	WINDLASS TRIKE		Type of Operation	Private	
Pilot-in-command Licence Type	Micro-light	Age	63	Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	838.0	Hours on Type	834.0	
Last point of departure	Treverton Aerodrome				
Next point of intended landing	Treverton Aerodrome				
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)					
N3 Highway Northbound (Mooi River Area)					
Meteorological Information	Fine - Wind from North / 7kt, Visibility - Good, Temperature + 20°C				
Number of people on board	1 + 1	No. of people injured	2 Minor	No. of people killed	None
Synopsis	<p>The pilot, accompanied by a passenger, was engaged in an aerial photographic flight when the engine failed. The only available place to land was on the N3 Highway northbound. At the time the engine lost power they were approximately 700 feet AGL.</p> <p>The pilot aimed for the shoulder of the highway (left of yellow line) but due to a heavy vehicle on the road the turbulence caused the left wing to collide with an embankment next to the highway. It caused the aircraft to spin around to the left and slide down the storm water gully backwards facing the oncoming traffic.</p> <p>The passenger sustained a cut to his right calf muscle and the pilot escaped with minor bruises.</p>				
Probable Cause					
<p>It would appear that the ignition coil, of the front cylinder of the engine broke down under full power conditions and caused a power loss.</p> <p>The aircraft was unable to maintain altitude and the pilot had no option but to execute a forced landing, with the most suitable terrain at the time being on the shoulder section of the highway.</p>					