



Ref: 7461

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

<b>Aircraft Registration</b>	<b>ZU-AIN</b>	<b>Date of Accident</b>	3/2/2002	<b>Time of Accident</b>	1650Z
<b>Type of Aircraft</b>	WINDLASS TRIKE		<b>Type of Operation</b>	Private	
<b>Pilot-in-command Licence Type</b>	Micro-light	<b>Age</b>	43	<b>Licence Valid</b>	No
<b>Pilot-in-command Flying Experience</b>	Total Flying Hours	60.10	<b>Hours on Type</b>	32.00	
<b>Last point of departure</b>	Runway 18, Lichtenburg Aerodrome				
<b>Next point of intended landing</b>	Runway 18, Lichtenburg Aerodrome				
<b>Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)</b>					

Lafarge Motor Race Track, Lichtenburg

<b>Meteorological Information</b>	Fine				
<b>Number of people on board</b>	1 + 1	<b>No. of people injured</b>	None	<b>No. of people killed</b>	None

**Synopsis**

The pilot, accompanied by one passenger, departed Lichtenburg aerodrome on a local private flight. After being airborne for approximately 10 minutes he experienced an engine power loss. The pilot elected to carry out a precautionary landing on a nearby raceway.

During the final approach phase he collided with power lines that were position across the race-track, at a height of approximately 7m (23 feet) above the ground. The ultra-light aircraft managed to land on its wheels on the racetrack, where after it departed the track to the left and impacted two concealed poles next to the track.

The aircraft was substantially damaged. The pilot escaped with minor facial injuries and the passenger was uninjured.

The last Annual Inspection prior to the accident was certified on 11 November 2001, at 334.0 airframe hours. Since the Annual Inspection was certified a further 2 hours were flown.

The aircraft was in possession of a valid Authority to Fly, expiry date 15 November 2002.

In accordance with available CAA records the pilot's license was not valid at the time.

**Probable Cause**

The engine lost power due to fuel contamination.

The pilot failed to observe the power lines in time, in order to take the necessary evasive action and collided with the wires.

Contributory to this, was the position of the sun at the time, which was setting in the West.