



Ref: 7566

SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Aircraft Registration	ZS-LEF	Date of Accident	17 October 2002	Time of Accident	1045Z
Type of Aircraft	Ayres S2R-T34		Type of Operation	Fire fighting operation	
Pilot-in-command Licence Type	Commercial	Age	47	Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	5101.1	Hours on Type	46.5	
Last point of departure	Singisi Aerodrome				
Next point of intended landing	Singisi Aerodrome				
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)					
Singisi Aerodrome					
Meteorological Information	Westerly Wind: 15 kts and Temperature: 32°C				
Number of people on board	1 + 0	No. of people injured	Nil	No. of people killed	Nil
Synopsis	<p>While engaged in aerial fire fighting operations in the Singisi area, the pilot returned to the Singisi Aerodrome for reloading. On landing he experienced gusty wind conditions which contributed to a hard landing and resulted in the right undercarriage shock strut breaking off. The right hand wing made contact with the runway surface, causing the aircraft to veer to the right. The propeller also made contact with the surface and the aircraft came to rest approximately 15m off the runway.</p> <p>The pilot was not injured, but the aircraft sustained substantial damage to propeller, engine, right hand wing spar and tip. The right hand undercarriage was also damaged.</p> <p>The last MPI was certified on 17 June 2002 at 6153.9 total airframe hours and the aircraft was operated for 28.2 hours since the last MPI.</p> <p>The organization was issued with a valid Operating Certificate in terms of Part 135 of the Civil Aviation Regulations of 1997 which expires on the 14 June 2003.</p> <p>No on-site investigation was conducted.</p>				
Probable Cause					
Poor landing technique.					