



Ref: 7747

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

Aircraft Registration	ZS-WXN	Date of Accident	31/12/2003	Time of Accident	0700Z
Type of Aircraft	WINDLASS TRIKE		Type of Operation	Private	
Pilot-in-command License Type	Micro-light	Age	21	License Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	244.0	Hours on Type	188.4	
Last point of departure	Kei Mouth Aerodrome, Eastern Cape coastline				
Next point of intended landing	Kei Mouth Aerodrome, Eastern Cape coastline				

Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)

Double Mouth Nature Reserve (GPS position: S 32° 43.382' E 028° 18.974', at an elevation of ±500ft)

Meteorological Information	Fine: Wind - 240°/10-15kts, Temperature 20°C, Visibility >10km				
Number of people on board	1 + 1	No. of people injured	0	No. of people killed	1 + 1

Synopsis

On 26 December 2003 the pilot flew with an aircraft that he borrowed from a friend from Bloemfontein via Queenstown to Kei Mouth where he intended to spend some time with friends over the festive season.

During the period 26-31 December 2003 the pilot conducted several pleasure flights for remuneration, including the accident flight. All these pleasure flights were conducted from the Kei Mouth aerodrome.

On the morning of 31 December 2003 the pilot accompanied by a paying passenger (10 year old boy) departed Kei Mouth aerodrome for an intended 10-15 minute pleasure flight of the area. The aircraft was observed flying along the coast in a westerly direction and turned inland (to the North) abeam Double Mouth. According to an eye-witness he heard a loud noise (snap sound) followed by a sudden decay in engine revolutions, the wing was torn and the aircraft nose dived followed by impact with terrain on a hill side near the Double Mouth holiday camp. He rushed to the scene of the accident to render assistance but could not obtain a pulse from either of the occupants, realizing that they must have died instantaneously. He then notified the police and emergency personnel.

Probable Cause

The pylon connection assembly, which attached the wing to the pylon failed in-flight over a period of time due to fatigue, which rendered the aircraft uncontrollable with ground impact inevitable.