



Ref: 7824

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

Aircraft Registration	ZS-JKE	Date of Accident	27 June 2004	Time of Accident	1300Z
Type of Aircraft	Beech 23 (Muskaateer)		Type of Operation	Private	
Pilot-in-command Licence Type	Private	Age	43	Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	81.80	Hours on Type	10.30	
Last point of departure	New Tempe Aerodrome				
Next point of intended landing	Beaufort West Aerodrome				
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)					
On a gravel Runway at Beaufort West Aerodrome					
Meteorological Information	North Westerly wind at 20kts. Visibility: Good. Temperature: 14°C				
Number of people on board	1 + 1	No. of people injured	0	No. of people killed	0

Synopsis

The pilot and a passenger were on a private flight from New Tempe Aerodrome to Beaufort West Aerodrome. Upon arrival overhead Beaufort West, the pilot encountered strong gusty wind conditions and executed two circuits before landing.

On final approach for landing on Runway 08 the pilot found it very difficult to fly straight and level and selected 25° of flaps. Upon landing the nosewheel struck the runway hard and collapsed. The aircraft skidded before coming to rest.

The pilot and the passenger were not injured but the aircraft sustained damage to the nosewheel and lower fuselage.

The last Mandatory Periodic Inspection (MPI) prior to the accident was certified on 24 November 2003 at 1672 total airframe hours and the aircraft was operated for 58.89 hours since the last MPI was certified. The Airworthiness Directives (AD) applicable to this MPI were complied with whilst there was no Service Bulletins (SB) to be complied with. The Aircraft Maintenance Organisation who certified the last MPI airworthy was properly audited during the last two years, the dates being 16 June 2003 and 18 June 2004 respectively.

The aircraft was type accepted into the Republic of South Africa in the year 1962.

No on-site investigation was conducted.

Probable Cause

During approach to land on a gravel runway in gust wind conditions, the pilot had difficulty to control the aircraft. On landing the aircraft landed hard causing the nose-wheel to collapse.