



Ref: 7833

SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Aircraft Registration	ZS-DKN	Date of Accident	15 July 2004	Time of Accident	1500Z
Type of Aircraft	CESSNA 180	Type of Operation	Private		
Pilot-in-command Licence Type	Private	Age	61	Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	2500	Hours on Type	50	
Last point of departure	Grand Central Aerodrome (FAGC)				
Next point of intended landing	Hazyview Aerodrome				
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)					
Hazyview Aerodrome					
Meteorological Information	CAVOK, Wind: 135°/10kt, Temperature: 16°C				
Number of people on board	1+2	No. of people injured	0	No. of people killed	0

Synopsis

The pilot had just landed on Runway 17 and had slowed down in order to carry out a 180° turn to backtrack on the runway.

The aircraft was taxied close to the left hand edge of the runway and as the pilot initiated the right turn, the tail wheel passed through a ditch covered by grass. This caused damage to the rear fuselage and tail wheel.

The pilot and passengers sustained no injuries.

The aircraft had a valid Certificate of Airworthiness which had been issued on 02 December 2003. The last MPI was certified on 14 November 2003 at 8623.00 flying hours. The aircraft had accumulated a further 63.96 flying hours.

Probable Cause

The pilot misjudged his proximity to the left hand edge of the runway and during the right hand turn in order to backtrack the runway, the tail wheel passed through a ditch which caused damage to the rear fuselage and tail wheel.