



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT REPORT

				Reference:	CA18/2/3/8298	
<b>Aircraft Registration</b>	ZU-EHW	<b>Date of Accident</b>	15 May 2007		<b>Time of Accident</b>	0800Z
<b>Type of Aircraft</b>	Gyrocopter ELA-08		<b>Type of Operation</b>	Private		
<b>Pilot-in-command Licence Type</b>		Gyroplane	<b>Age</b>	52	<b>Licence Valid</b>	Yes
<b>Pilot-in-command Flying Experience</b>		Total Flying Hours	72		Hours on Type	72
<b>Last point of departure</b>		Springs Aerodrome				
<b>Next point of intended landing</b>		Springs Aerodrome				
<b>Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)</b>						
100 metres from the threshold of Runway 21						
<b>Meteorological Information</b>		Surface wind: 270 %0 knots; Temperature: 17°C				
<b>Number of people on board</b>	1 + 0	<b>No. of people injured</b>	0	<b>No. of people killed</b>	0	
<b>Synopsis</b>						
<p>The pilot reported that he had been practising circuits and landings. After completing two circuits successfully, he lifted off for the third. As he did so, the gyrocopter drifted to the right. An attempt to correct the drift to the left was not successful, and the pilot lost control of the aircraft, crashing approximately 100m from the runway.</p> <p>The pilot suffered no injuries, but the aircraft sustained damage to the fuselage, main rotor blades and right-hand tail.</p> <p>The pilot was licensed, medically fit with no restrictions and qualified for the flight in accordance with existing SACAA regulations.</p> <p>Maintenance records indicated that the aircraft had been equipped and maintained in accordance with existing regulations and approved procedures. The last annual inspection had been carried out on 18 September 2006. The aircraft had accumulated a total of 76, 7 airframe hours at the time of the accident.</p>						
<b>Probable Cause</b>						
<p>The pilot lost control of the aircraft during take-off.</p>						
IARC Date	23 October 2007		Release Date	Reviewed by EM Office: Sep 2008		