



A99-117-7108

SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Accident	26 October 1999	Time of Accident	1615 Z
Aircraft Registration	ZS-FWT	Type of Aircraft	Piper PA28R-200
Pilot-in-command Licence Type	Private		Licence Valid Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	714.50 Hours	Total Hours on Type 198.60 Hours
Type of Operation	Private		
Last point of departure	Flamingo Park, East London.		
Next point of intended landing	Kob Inn		

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

Kob Inn

Meteorological Information	The weather was fine, the surface wind 09 at 5kt				
Number of people on board	3	No. of people injured	Nil	No. of people killed	Nil

Synopsis

The pilot stated that on 26 October 1999 at approximately 1615Z, he landed on Runway 06 at Kob Inn. He then taxied the aircraft towards the end of the runway and intended to backtrack the aircraft on the runway when the nose wheel sank approximately 100mm into a trench covered by soft and wet sand

According to the pilot, the trench was dug approximately 4 months ago for installation of an underground electrical cable and the sand became soft due to heavy rainfall earlier on.

According to the pilot he inspected the runway prior to take-off and the runway appeared to be suitable for take-off and landing.

Probable Cause

The nose undercarriage collapsed after the nose wheel entered a trench covered by soft and wet sand caused by heavy rainfall earlier on.