



AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

				Reference:	CA18/2/3/7935	
Aircraft Registration	ZS-GMR	Date of Accident	27 March 2005		Time of Accident	1220Z
Type of Aircraft	Janus C (Glider)		Type of Operation		Private	
Pilot-in-command Licence Type		Glider	Age	57	Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience		Total Flying Hours	282		Hours on Type	58
Last point of departure		Estcourt Airfield				
Next point of intended landing		Estcourt Airfield				
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)						
Estcourt Airfield						
Meteorological Information		CAVOK				
Number of people on board	1+1	No. of people injured	2	No. of people killed	0	
Synopsis						
<p>The glider was in the initial stage of a winch launch on Runway 01. The glider stalled at a height of approximately 100 feet (ft) above ground level (A.G.L) having failed to gain sufficient airspeed when a launch cable back released. The left wing impacted the top of a small tree before the glider impacted the ground in a flat attitude. The distance from the launch point to the impact point was approximately 200 meters.</p> <p>The winch runner (operator) stated that the glider launched into a light head wind. The glider seemed to have over-ran the cable which back released. The glider continued to climb, the nose went down in recovery but there was no flying speed and it crashed at 20ft.</p> <p>The aircraft was certified airworthy and issued with a Private Authority to Fly on 06 August 2004. The last Annual Inspection was certified on 06 August 2004 at 1150 flying hours and the aircraft had operated for further 50 hours since the last Annual Inspection. The approved person was correctly accredited.</p>						
Probable Cause						
<p>The accident was attributed to the premature release of the launch cable; because the glider had not gained sufficient speed it stalled and crashed. The reason for the premature back release of the cable could not be determined.</p>						
IARC Date				Release Date		