

INTERIM STATEMENT**Accident and Incident Investigations Division**

Accident
- ZS-PMT Interim Statement -
AIID Ref No: CA18/2/3/10062



Figure 1: The file picture of the ZS-PMT aircraft. (Source: www.jetphotos.com)

Description:

On Saturday, 30 October 2021 at 0600Z, a pilot and a passenger on-board a Cessna 182P aircraft with registration ZS-PMT took off from Lanseria International Airport (FALA) to Rand Airport (FAGM). Both airports are in Gauteng province. FAGM was to be the new base hangar for the aircraft. The pilot stated that on approach for FAGM and, having reported point Romeo Delta (RD), the engine felt sluggish. This was followed by a drop in manifold pressure and engine power loss. The pilot contacted FAGM tower and advised them of his situation and position. The FAGM tower then cleared the aircraft for a long straight-in approach for Runway 11. However, the pilot deduced that he would not reach the runway and decided to execute a forced landing. During the forced landing, the aircraft impacted tree branches before it crashed near a riverbank. A post-impact fire started soon after. As a result, the pilot and the passenger sustained first and third-degree burns. The aircraft was destroyed during the accident sequence.

NOTE

All times given in this report are Co-ordinated Universal Time (UTC) and will be denoted by (Z). South African Standard Time is UTC plus 2 hours.

Purpose of the Investigation:

*In terms of Regulation 12.03.1 of the Civil Aviation Regulations (CAR) 2011, this interim statement was compiled in the interest of the promotion of aviation safety and the reduction of the risk of aviation accidents or incidents and **not to apportion blame or liability**.*

The ZS-PMT interim statement gives a brief on the investigation progress and should be read in conjunction with the preliminary report with reference number CA18/2/3/10062 that was published on 2 December 2021.

The interim statement is released in accordance with Standard 6.6 of ICAO Annex 13 and CAR Part 12.05.1(7).

The final report may contain altered information if new evidence becomes available during the on-going investigation.

Any person who has information concerning this accident should contact the Accident and Incident Investigations Division (AIID) on AIIDinbox@caa.co.za

Investigations process:

The occurrence was categorised as an accident and the AIID has assigned an Accident Investigation File Number CA18/2/3/10062 to this investigation.

The AIID appointed the investigation team led by the investigator-in-charge (IIC). The States of Manufacturer, Operator, Registry and Design were notified of the accident. The States did not assign accredited representatives. The State of Operator did not assign an adviser to the IIC. The AIID is leading the investigation and will issue the final report.

The AIID reports are made available to the public at:

<https://www.caa.co.za/industry-information/accidents-and-incidents/>

Disclaimer

This interim statement is produced without prejudice to the rights of the SACAA, which are reserved.

Interim Statement

The ZS-PMT interim statement gives a brief account of the progress of the investigation into the subject accident. The interim statement is released in accordance with Standard 6.6 of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Annex 13 and CAR Part 12.05.1(7).

The accident, which occurred on 30 October 2021, involved a Cessna aircraft with registration ZS-PMT that departed Lanseria International Airport (FALA) in Gauteng province.

Since the release of the preliminary report on 2 December 2021, the investigation has uncovered the following:

- The engine was found to be operating normally, meaning that it had not stopped operating prior to and during the accident sequence.
- It was also found that the throttle cable had separated from the throttle lever; only the eye end of the cable was found, which was then sent for test and analysis. The bolt, castellated nut and the split pin were recovered.
- Flight controls continuity was checked, and there was positive movement of the associated cables and controls.
- The reported weather conditions at the time of the flight had no bearing to this accident.
- Selected components of the failed throttle assembly from the accident aircraft were submitted to determine the most probable contributory cause/s towards its failure during operation. The investigation revealed no clear pre-impact fractures or other discrepancies with the throttle cable and carburettor assemblies that would result in the separation of the two parts in-flight.

The AIID investigation, in collaboration with the SACAA, affected states, state authorities and other organisations is still on-going, and the investigators will be looking into other aspects of this occurrence which may or may not have safety implications.

This report is issued by:

**Accident and Incident Investigation Division
South African Civil Aviation Authority
Republic of South Africa**