



LIMITED ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT
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Reference Number		CA18/2/3/10047					
Classification	Accident	Date	6 October 2021	Time	1413Z		
Type of Operation	Private (Part 91)						
Location							
Place of Departure	Potchefstroom Aerodrome (FAPS), Gauteng Province		Place of Intended Landing	Potchefstroom Aerodrome (FAPS), Gauteng Province			
Place of Accident	Runway (RWY 03), Potchefstroom Aerodrome (FAPS)						
GPS Co-ordinates	Latitude	26°40'16" S	Longitude	027°4'48.54" E	Elevation	4456ft	
Aircraft Information							
Registration	ZS-GSW						
Model/Make	S10, Stemme GMHB & Co KG (Serial Number: 10-17)						
Damage to Aircraft	Substantial		Total Aircraft Hours	1195.65			
Pilot-in-command							
Licence Valid	Yes	Gender	Male	Age	60		
Licence Type	Glider Pilot Licence						
Total Hours on Type	±802.31		Total Flying Hours	2192.8			
People On-board	1 + 1	Injuries	0	Fatalities	0	Other (on ground) 0	
What Happened							
<p>On 6 October 2021 at approximately 1011Z, the pilot accompanied by a passenger on-board a S10 powered glider aircraft with registration ZS-GSW was engaged in an air race competition in Potchefstroom Aerodrome (FAPS). The flight was conducted in visual meteorological conditions (VMC) by day and under the provisions of Part 91 of the Civil Aviation Regulations 2011 as amended.</p> <p>The glider took off from FAPS and routed through all the race points with the intention to return to the point of departure, which is FAPS. The flight was uneventful until the power glider landed on Runway 03 at 1413Z. According to the pilot, during approach for landing, the glider experienced turbulence and a gust of wind which caused an unstable approach. Whilst landing, the glider subsequently contacted the runway hard with the left main landing gear first, resulting in the fracture of the main-tube assembly and the damage (bent) of the shock absorbers. The pilot managed to bring the glider to a full stop without sustaining further damages. No injuries were reported.</p>							



Figure 1: Damage on the left main gear.

The weather information was sourced from the South African weather Service (SAWS) report for FAPS at 1400Z.

Wind direction	360°	Wind speed	08G19 kts	Visibility	9999m
Temperature	33°C	Cloud cover	SKY Clear	Cloud base	None
Dew point	14°C	QNH	1017		

The weather above shows that at 1400Z there was a northerly wind, gusting at 19 knots (kts). According to the Pilot's Operating Handbook (POH), the maximum demonstrated crosswind is 16kts.

Probable cause:

During an approach for landing whilst close to the ground, the glider experienced a gust of wind which caused the left main gear to contact the runway surface hard, resulting in the fracture of the main-tube assembly and the damage (bent) of the shock absorbers.

Safety Action/s

None.

Safety Message and/or Safety Recommendation/s

None.

Purpose of the Investigation

*In terms of Regulation 12.03.1 of the Civil Aviation Regulations (CAR) 2011, this report 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.***

About this Report

Decisions regarding whether to investigate, and the scope of an investigation are based on many factors, including the level of safety benefit likely to be obtained from an investigation. For this

occurrence, no investigation has been conducted, and the Accident and Incident Investigations Division (AIID) has relied on the information submitted by the affected person/s and organisation/s to compile this brief report. The report has been compiled using information supplied in the initial notification, as well as follow-up information to bring awareness of potential safety issues to the industry in respect of this occurrence, as well as possible safety action/s that the industry might want to consider in preventing a recurrence of a similar accident.

This report provides an opportunity to share safety message/s in the absence of an investigation.

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.

Disclaimer

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This report is issued by:

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