

### Aircraft Occurrences May 2023

Statistics reflect accident information entered into the computer by the Accident and Investigation Office and are current as of the date of this document. The data herein is dynamic and is therefore subject to change due to updated information.

Ref	Date of Occ	Registration	Location of Accident	Aircraft Type	Operations (Private, Training)	Province	Fatalities	Circumstances
TBA	04-05-2023	ZT-XSD	Mondi mill 5 nm northwest of FARB	RPA	Remotely Piloted Aircraft System	KZN	0	The pilot reported that he conducted pre-flight checks with no anomalies noted. He then armed and launched the RPA for the mission with 99% battery power. Shortly thereafter, he heard an unfamiliar noise coming from the RPA and saw it spiral down to the ground, approximately 100 metres from the launch pad.
TBA	05-05-2023	ZU-EWU	Wagnbietjie private farm 5 nm FAKM	S-6 Coyote II	Operation of Non-type Certified Aircraft	NC	0	The pilot reported that he conducted pre-flight checks, and no anomalies were noted. During the ground roll before take-off speed was attained, the nose wheel ran over a burrow. This caused the aircraft to nose over before it came to rest in an inverted attitude.
TBA	12-05-2023	ZT-XXC	Lonmin Mine near Marikana	Arace Sirin	Remotely Piloted Aircraft System	NW	0	According to the pilot, during the final approach phase to land at Lonmin Mine near Marikana at night, the RPA was set at speed mode. Before he could deactivate/ cancel the speed mode, the RPA collided with a fence and crashed to the ground.
TBA	08-05-2023	ZT-XNI	Vryheid	Arace Sirin	Remotely Piloted Aircraft System	KZN	0	The pilot reported that he conducted the pre-flight checks with no anomalies noted. He then launched the RPA in 'Atti mode' with 98% battery power at approximately 2152Z. He then switched to 'loiter mode' for the mission. The RPA climbed to 80 metres, then descended to 69 metres when the pilot spotted the suspects. The pilot resumed the mission in 'Atti mode' for 1.2 kilometres after which the RPA lost the C2 link. The pilot engaged the return to launch (RTL) button, but the RPA engaged auto land. The pilot reported the last known location to dispatch personnel and requested recovery.
TBA	10-05-2023	ZT-YHR	Balfour	Arace Sirin	Remotely Piloted Aircraft System	MP	0	The pilot reported that he conducted the pre-flight checks with no anomalies noted. He then armed and launched the RPA for the mission with 99% battery power at 2358Z. The RPA climbed to 120 metres to start the mission which lasted approximately 42 minutes. On its return to the launch pad for landing, the pilot noticed a fail-safe 'EKF3 lane switch' warning on the controller unit. Shortly thereafter, the RPA disconnected from the controller unit. The pilot switched on the strobe lights in to locate the aircraft visually and was successful. He recovered the RPA on the ground approximately 10 metres from the launch pad with damage to the landing gear, fuselage and gimbal.
TBA	10-05-2023	ZT-XVM	Vrede	Arace Sirin	Remotely Piloted Aircraft System	FS	0	The pilot reported that he conducted pre-flight checks with no anomalies noted. He then armed and launched the RPA for the mission with 94% battery power at approximately 1920Z. The RPA completed the mission with about 39% battery remaining. Whilst returning to the launch pad for landing, the pilot noted 'critical battery' warning indication on the controller unit. Shortly thereafter, the RPA altitude decreased with 'potential thrust lost' on the controller unit. The RPA disconnected from the controller before it crashed to the ground approximately 900 metres from the launch pad. The pilot recovered the RPA; it sustained substantial damage to the landing gear and gimbal.



TBA	14-05-2023	ZS-GMK	Worcester Aerodrome (FAWC)	ASW-20	Operation of Non-type Certified Aircraft	WC	0	The accident glider was the first of two gliders that was towed into the air by a tug aircraft that afternoon from FAWC. The tug pilot indicated that he was still airborne when he was contacted to go look for the ZS-GMK glider in Villiersdorp area. He located the wreckage from the air which was approximately 20nm south-west of FAWC and informed the relevant parties who responded by road to the scene. It was possible that the glider pilot got caught in rough air (wind blowing over the mountain into the valley from the southeast and selected a field for an out landing but most probably could not maintain flying speed and the glider impacted the terrain in a steep nose-down attitude. The pilot broke his right ankle during the occurrence and was taken to hospital by paramedics who responded to the scene. weather conditions (strong winds) forced the pilot to perform an out landing on rough terrain.
TBA	23-05-2023	ZS-IKY	FALA	PA 28-140	General Operating and Flight Rules	GP	0	According to the pilot, he intended to conduct touch -and -go landings on Runway (RWY) 07. The pilot stated that he conducted two touch -and -go landings which were uneventful. A right - hand circuit was flown on both occasions. During the third circuit which was going to be the final circuit before returning to the ATO, the Air Traffic Control on duty instructed the pilot to perform two left -hand orbits whilst on right -hand downwind to accommodate other traffic and re -join the circuit for a full stop landing. During approach, the indicated airspeed (IAS) was kept at 65 knots (kt) with flaps setting of 25 ° and the rate of descent was 500 feet per minute. Prior to touchdown and during flaring, the pilot reported that the aircraft ballooned, and, during touchdown, it bounced. After settling on the runway, the pilot lost directional control. To correct the situation, the pilot applied brakes in unequal strengths which resulting in the aircraft veering off to the left of the runway. During the sequence of events, the nose gear collapsed, and the right wing and propeller blades contacted the runway surface.
TBA	27-05-2023	ZT-XOD	Harmony Savuka	Arace Sirin	Remotely Piloted Aircraft System	GP	0	On Saturday evening, 27 May 2023 an UAV drone pilot with registration ZT-XOD launched from Harmony Savuka mine to conduct security surveillance with the intention to land at same launching pad. The flight was conducted beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) under visual meteorological condition (VMC) by night under the provisions of Part 101 of the Civil Aviation Regulations 2011 as amended. The RPL pilot reported that the drone experienced a gust of 20 knots wind which caused the drone to lose control and crashed onto overhead cables at the mine Barrack's parking area.
TBA	28-05-2023	ZT-XDT	Welgedacht	Arace Sirin	Remotely Piloted Aircraft System	GP	0	On Sunday evening, 28 May 2023 an UAV drone pilot with registration ZT-XDT launched from Welgedacht to conduct security surveillance with the intention to land back at the same launching pad. The flight was conducted beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) under visual meteorological condition (VMC) by night under the provisions of Part 101 of the Civil Aviation Regulations 2011 as amended. The RPL pilot reported that during the operation he fell asleep, the drone reached the fail-safe mode and it returned to launch position during the descend it went into an adjacent position and crashed into a corn field. The drone was recovered and had sustained two broken landing legs. Cause Known: The pilot fell asleep during the operation.
TBA	29-05-2023	ZT-YFA	Piet Retief	Mavic	Remotely Piloted Aircraft System	KZN	0	The pilot stated that at approximately 1836Z, while cruising at 120m above ground level she flew in an Easterly direction which was 2.6 km to hover and take pictures. During the hover, connection signal was lost, she set the drone to return to launch (RTL) and noticed that the battery was at 56% but did not show the green light. At 1846Z she was waiting for the remote control (RC) to establish connection with the drone, but it did not happen. She drove to the last known location of where the drone was flying and found that the drone had crashed and sustained damages. All propellers disintegrated from the drone and the battery was separated from the drone.
TBA	30-05-2023	ZT-XUR	Zungwini in Vryheid	Arace Sirin	Remotely Piloted Aircraft System	GP	0	On Tuesday morning, 30 May 2023 RPL pilot with registration ZT-XUR launched from Zungwini landing pad for security surveillance with the intention of landing at the same launching pad. The flight was conducted beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) under visual meteorological condition (VMC) by night under the provisions of Part 101 of the Civil Aviation Regulations 2011 as amended. After 08 minutes of surveillance the RPL pilot reported radio failsafe mode due to loss of signal as a result he lost control of the aircraft before it crashed. The drone sustained substantial damages to the propeller, landing gear and arm got bent and the gimbal got detached from the drone. Cause unknown: Loss of C2 link.



TBA	28-05-2023	ZU-IMB	Petit Airfield (FARA)	MCR4S	Operation of Non-type Certified Aircraft	GP	0	The pilot reported that during taxiing, the nose wheel separated from the nose wheel strut before the aircraft came to a halt. During the process the propeller tips contacted the ground. The flight was conducted under visual meteorological condition (VMC) by day under the provisions of Part 94 of the Civil Aviation Regulations 2011 as amended. The pilot sustained no injuries. The aircraft sustained damages to the nosewheel, and the propeller tips.
TBA	31-05-2023	ZT-XHA	Klipspruit Mine in Ogies	eBee X	Remotely Piloted Aircraft System	MP	0	The pilot reported that he launched the UAS for surveillance overhead the mine pit. After the fifth surveillance pattern, the UAS rolled left before it spiralled uncontrollably towards the ground. The pilot engaged the FAST CLIMB function on the controller to stop the UAS from spiralling down, and that is when the DATA DOWNLINK warning displayed on the controller unit. The UAS continued to descend until it impacted the ground.
TBA	08-03-2023	ZT-RHB	Barnstormers Model Flying Club	R66	General Operating and Flight Rules	GP	0	The pilot stated that the flight was uneventful, however, en-route to Ultimate Heliport and flying over Barnstormers Model Flying Club at approximately 6000 feet above mean sea level (AMSL), the helicopter collided with a yellow drone. The pilot stated that he did not see the drone registration mark. The helicopter continued with the flight without any issues and landed safely at Ultimate Heliport. Post-incident inspection of the helicopter showed yellow paint marks on the nose of the fuselage running towards the belly.
TBA	10-03-2023	ZS-PKB	FAOR	Beech 1900	Air Transport Operations – Carriage of less than 20 Passengers or. Cargo	GP	0	On 10 March 2023 at 1130Z, a scheduled Cemair aircraft from OR Tambo International Airport (FAOR) Gauteng Province to Margate Airport (FAMG) KwaZulu-Natal Province, requested start and pushback from ground controller. On board the aircraft was 3 crew and 18 passengers and aircraft registration was ZS-PKB. According to the pilot monitoring (PM) their tug pushed them back from park bay C19 to taxiway India while they started the engines. They completed their after-start checklist and waited for the tug to disconnect. The tug disconnected and drove to the right of the aircraft towards C19 parking bay. The PM requested taxi clearance to the runway in use as they were ready, and it was given. The PM monitoring said as soon the pilot flying started to taxi, he suddenly felt a pull to the right. The PM looked outside and saw that their right wingtip had collided with the top part of the tug. The aircraft sustained minor damages on the wingtip and the tug had minor damages. No one was injured in the aircraft. Cause: Aircraft collided with the tug during taxi

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Last date of update: 26 June 2023