



SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Accident	21-12-2000	Time of Accident	1708 Z	
Aircraft Registration	ZS-TOW	Type of Aircraft	Gates Learjet 35A	
Pilot-in-command Licence Type	Airline Transport		Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	11900.00	Total Hours on Type	1000.00
Type of Operation	Domestic Charter Flight			
Last point of departure	Capetown International Airport			
Next point of intended landing	Johannesburg International Airport			

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

Runway 03R at FAJS

Meteorological Information	Aircraft landed at FAJS after a heavy downpour of rain				
Number of people on board	2+1	No. of people injured	Nil	No. of people killed	Nil
Synopsis					

The Gates Learjet A35 aircraft landed at 1708 Z on runway 03R at Johannesburg International Airport after a heavy downpour of rain. The pilot reported that shortly after touch down, the aircraft started aquaplaning causing all four main wheel tyres to burst. The aircraft came to rest on the runway without any further incident.

An inspection of the landing gear revealed flat spots on all four main wheel tyres and the main wheels deflated. However, no signs of overheating or damage were noted on the brake assemblies.

The four main wheel assemblies were replaced and the aircraft flown subsequently without any further problems.

The Maintenance Director of Execujet South Africa stated that he inspected the main wheel tyres and there was definite evidence that the aircraft aquaplaned on touch down. It is highly unlikely that the Anti-Skid system was turned off as four red warning lights are displayed in front of the pilot-in-command with the Anti-Skid system selected off.

The last MPI was carried out on the aircraft on 25-11-2000 at a total of 5754.10 hours and the total airframe hours at the time of the Incident was 5763.30 hours.

Probable Cause

It appears that the aircraft most probably aquaplaned on touch down after a heavy downpour of rain on the runway.



RIGHT-HAND MAIN GEAR FWD VIEW

R/H MAIN GEAR FWD VIEW



LEFT-HAND MAIN GEAR REAR VIEW

LEFT-HAND MAIN GEAR REAR VIEW