



Ref: 7844

SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Aircraft Registration	ZS-FZI	Date of Accident	13 August 2004	Time of Accident	0930Z
Type of Aircraft	PIPER PA-28-180		Type of Operation	Private	
Pilot-in-command Licence Type	Private	Age	20	Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	61:10	Hours on Type	15:30	
Last point of departure	Brits Aerodrome				
Next point of intended landing	Brits Aerodrome				
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)					
On Runway 20 at Brits Aerodrome (S25°32.027' E027°46.552').					
Meteorological Information	Surface wind light and variable, Temperature: 25°C, Visibility: CAVOK				
Number of people on board	1 + 0	No. of people injured	0	No. of people killed	0
Synopsis	<p>The pilot was engaged in flying circuits and landings at Brits Aerodrome. After about five successful circuits and landings and during the sixth landing the pilot stated that he executed a normal landing on the centre-line of the runway.</p> <p>According to him the aircraft started to veer to the left of the runway and although he applied full right rudder control and aileron it appeared to him that the left-hand main wheel was dragging.</p> <p>The aircraft veered off the left-hand side of the runway and the nose landing gear collapsed. When the pilot was questioned whether he had intending to carry out a touch and go landing he stated that he was not sure, but the bending of the propeller blades suggested that the engine was producing power when it contacted the strip surface.</p>				
Probable Cause					
The pilot lost directional control of the aircraft during a touch and go landing due to inappropriate rudder control inputs to compensate for the left yaw effect when he applied power.					