



J10/2/6876

SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Date of Accident	4 May 1998	Time of Accident		1053z	
Aircraft Registration	ZS-IYU	Type of Aircraft		Cessna 177RG	
Pilot-in-command Licence Type		Private Pilot		Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience		Total Flying Hours	163.36	Total Hours on Type	68.4
Last point of departure		Saldanha Aerodrome			
Next point of intended landing		Vredendal Aerodrome			

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

On the farm Patrysberg at the position South 32°49,146' East 018°05,085'

Meteorological Information	Overcast with low cloud.				
Number of people on board	1	No. of people injured	Nil	No. of people killed	1
Synopsis					

After the aircraft was out of operation for some time due to a mayor inspection and an engine overhaul, the pilot attempted to fly the aircraft from Saldanha Aerodrome to his home town of Vredendal. The meteorological conditions were not favorable for a visual flight rules flight, there were low clouds over the area. The non-instrument rated pilot most probably entered the clouds and became spatially disorientated. He lost control of the aircraft and dived into the ground at high speed.

Probable Cause

The pilot flew the aircraft into instrument meteorological conditions while he was not qualified to fly in such conditions. He became spatially disorientated, lost control of the aircraft and dived into the ground at high speed.