



Ref: 7329

SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Aircraft Registration	ZS-MDX	Date of Accident	20/03/01	Time of Accident	1555Z
Type of Aircraft	CESSNA 172 N		Type of Operation	Training	
Operator licence valid	YES		Expiry date	01/06/2002	
Pilot-in-command Licence Type	Student	Age	33	Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	20		Hours on Type	20
Last point of departure	FAWB				
Next point of intended landing	FAWB				

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

Runway 11 at FAWB

Meteorological Information	The weather was fine				
Number of people on board	1	No. of people injured	None	No. of people killed	None

Synopsis

The student pilot was engaged in solo circuit and landing training. On the fourth landing he allowed the aircraft to land hard on the nose wheel, causing the nose wheel to disintegrate. The nose gear attachment bracket and the firewall were also damaged.

This was the student pilot's third solo sortie and he had accumulated only 1.9 hours solo hours at the time of the accident.

The flight was duly authorised and his training file was kept as prescribed and no abnormalities were entered in the file, indicating that the student pilot's progress was satisfactory.

Investigation of the nose wheel hub revealed no evidence of any fatigue or corrosion damage that could have caused the hub to fail.

The aircraft was maintained as prescribed and the next MPI was due on 20 February 2002 or at 5431.5 flying hours whichever occurred first and the aircraft was only operated for 67 hours since the last MPI.

Probable Cause

Hard landing on nose wheel.