

		<div>Ref: 7904</div> <div> SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY </div>					
Aircraft Registration	ZU-CVN	Date of Accident	08 January 2005		Time of Accident	0857Z	
Type of Aircraft	CHALLENGER SPECIAL II			Type of Operation	Private		
Pilot-in-command Licence Type		Student Pilot's Licence	Age	58	Licence Valid	Yes	
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience		Total Flying Hours	177		Hours on Type	16.9	
Last point of departure		Nadini Private aerodrome near De Doorns, Western Cape					
Next point of intended landing		Nadini Private Aerodrome near De Doorns, Western Cape					
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible) Valley in mountain East of Roode Elsberger dam and river at a Geographical position: S33°24.855' E 019° 35.301'							
Meteorological Information		The weather was fine, Temperature 23° C and the Surface wind 200°/10kt					
Number of people on board	1+1	No. of people injured	1		No. of people killed	1	
Synopsis <p>On 8 January 2005 at approximately 0650Z (08h50), the pilot accompanied by a passenger (his daughter) departed on a pleasure flight from a private aerodrome at Nadini situated between De Doorns and Touwsriver. The pilot then flew in an easterly direction, turned around and landed back at the aerodrome at 0804Z (10h04) after a flight of 1 hour and 14 minutes.</p> <p>The pilot then took off again from the private aerodrome at 0826Z (10h26) and flew overhead his farm house at De Doorns and then flew up the river to the Roode Elsberger Dam in order to observe the level of the dam.</p> <p>The pilot's wife became concerned when they failed to return at approximately 1200Z (14h00) and contacted the Worcester Flight School who then initiated a search and rescue operation.</p> <p>At approximately 1500Z (17h00) the aircraft wreckage was located by members of the Worcester Flight School up the mountain in the valley east of Roode Elsberger dam.</p> <p>The pilot sustained fatal injuries and his daughter was airlifted by helicopter with severe back injuries and facial wounds.</p> <p>According to the passenger (pilot's daughter), the pilot uplifted fuel into the aircraft and carried out a pre-flight inspection on the aircraft before departing from Nadini aerodrome. She further stated that whilst flying in the valley up the mountain, the pilot commented; "Ons is in die moeilikheid" (we are in trouble) just prior to impact.</p>							
Probable Cause <p>The pilot flew through a valley in the mountains when the conditions in the valley at the mountain became too narrow to turn around and too steep for the aircraft's rate of climb which could be described as a "dead end valley". The aircraft most probably stalled in a nose high attitude and then collided on the steep slope of the mountain.</p> <p>A contributory factor is that due to predominant downdrafts within the gorge at the mountain, the aircraft was unable to gain altitude to clear rising terrain and crashed.</p>							