



**Aviation Safety Council
Taipei, Taiwan**

**LIGHT'S AMERICAN SPORTSCOPTER
INC. ULTRASPORT 496 HELICOPTER
CRASHED ON RIVERBED NEAR
GUOXING BRIDGE, ZENGWUN RIVER,
and TAINAN COUNTY**

Executive Summary

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On April 19 2004 , at around 0930am, a Ultra sport 496 helicopter of Light's American Sportscopter Inc., no registration number, departed from FeiLong Airfield on Shi'erdian, Gongxue Rd., Tainan City , carried out a load test , the aircraft had only one pilot on the right seat, two bags of sandstone on the left seat, each bag weight 88 pounds. At around 0950 the aircraft crashed on the watermelon farm at the center of the river near Guoxing Bridge south of the riverbank of Zengwun River, the aircraft was completely destroyed and the pilot died on the scene.

Investigation Conclusions

1. The aircraft did not accurately calculate weight and balance before flight, forced landing was conducted probably due to the insufficient horsepower required by the subject at that time, accident happened due to unable to control the aircraft before landing.
2. Light's American Sportscopter Inc. did not possessed the complete maintenance and test flight records of the aircraft, and did not have test flight procedures as well , which affected flight safety.
3. The aircraft did not carry out flight activities according to the Civil Aviation Act.
4. The definition of "fuel loading" for ultra-light vehicle in article 2 of Civil Aviation Act was easily misunderstood.

5. The damages of the fuselage and the engine of the aircraft were caused by the impacts of the crash.
6. Meteorological factors had no relations with the flight.

Safety Recommendations

To Light's American Sportscopeter Inc.

1. Conduct accurate weight and balance calculation before flights.
2. Conduct flight activities according to the regulations of Civil Aviation Act.

To Civil Aeronautics Administration, CAA

1. Strengthen to ban the illegal aircraft flight activities is suggested , and propagandize relevant aviation laws to avoid similar accidents from happening to protect legal flight activities and public safety .
2. Consider to amend the definition of “fuel loading “for ultra-light vehicles in article 2 of Civil Aviation Act.

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