

Aviation Safety Council Taipei, Taiwan

1030C42B ULTRA-LIGHT VEHICLE OCCURRENCE INVESTIGATION

Executive Summary

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On October 30, 2005, an ultra-light vehicle, type IKARUS C42B, owned by private, two people were on board and departed from Shanshang Township, Tainan County, at 0706. The vehicle crashed at Meisan township mountain area, Chiayi County, at 0732. The vehicle was completely burned after the crash impact. One of the operator was killed after impact fire, the other operator, although showed signs of life, had been in a coma after sent to the hospital, and passed away after seven days hospitality. The investigators were unable to get testimonies from the people on board. The download data of GPS receiver revealed, the flight time lasted for 26 minutes, the speed of the last record was 162km/hr, the speed was the about cruise speed of the vehicle. The receiver recorded that the last track of the vehicle was changing from heading north to turning right to 106 degrees gradually. The heading which the vehicle chopped down the trees at the occurrence scene was southeastwards.

Discussion and Conclusions

When the occurrence happened, according the residents nearby occurrence site, the weather was foggy and visibility was poor. The track data of GPS receiver revealed that the ultra-light vehicle almost rammed into the mountain at cruise speed. The pilot qualification and the aircraft inspection were not complied with relevant civil aviation laws, the takeoff field was not approved, and the flight path was outside of legal airspace for ultra-light vehicles. However, there was no any legal activity allowed in Taiwan for

ultra-light vehicle due to air field issues at time of occurrence. Obtaining appropriate land for ultra-light vehicle air field still remained the key issue for ultra-light vehicle activity. To improve flight safety environment for ultra-light vehicles, and reduce current illegal flights of ultra-light vehicles, ASC recommended relevant units such as Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Economic Affairs, and Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan to make consultations to resolve the problem of ultra-light vehicle air field. ASC also recommended CAA to continue assisting the ultra-light vehicle organizations to obtain legal land for air field, and effectively supervise ultra-light vehicle organizations to reduce illegal activities of ultra-light vehicles.

Safety Recommendations

To Ministry of Transportation and Communications

 To improve flight safety environment for ultra-light vehicles, and reduce current illegal flights of ultra-light vehicles, ASC recommended relevant units such as Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Economic Affairs, and Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan to make consultations to resolve the problem of ultra-light vehicle air field. (ASC-ASR-06-08-006)

To Ministry of Interior

 To improve flight safety environment for ultra-light vehicles, and reduce current illegal flights of ultra-light vehicles, ASC recommended relevant units such as Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Economic Affairs, and Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan to make consultations to resolve the problem of ultra-light vehicle air field... (ASC-ASR-06-08-007)

To Ministry of Economic Affairs

 To improve flight safety environment for ultra-light vehicles, and reduce current illegal flights of ultra-light vehicles, ASC recommended relevant units such as Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Economic Affairs, and Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan to make consultations to resolve the problem of ultra-light vehicle air field. (ASC-ASR-06-08-008)

To Council of Agriculture

 To improve flight safety environment for ultra-light vehicles, and reduce current illegal flights of ultra-light vehicles, ASC recommended relevant units such as Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Economic Affairs, and Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan to make consultations to resolve the problem of ultra-light vehicle air field. (ASC-ASR-06-08-009)

To Civil Aeronautics Administration, CAA

 To improve flight safety environment for ultra-light vehicles, and reduce current illegal flights of ultra-light vehicles, ASC recommended relevant units such as Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Economic Affairs, and Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan to make consultations to resolve the problem of ultra-light vehicle air field. (ASC-ASR-06-08-010)

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