

Aviation Safety Council Taipei, Taiwan

0103 AIR CREATION ULTRA-LIGHT VEHICLE WITHOUT LAWFUL APPLICATION FOR NANHUA AIRFIELD ACTIVITY CRASHED

Executive Summary

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On January 3, 2009, an Air Creation power glider with two people on board and the operator sitting in front took off from an open field east of Nanhua Bridge in Gaoshu Township, Pingtung County without application. At around 16:30, when it was conducting a third dive, the vehicle suddenly decreased speed with wings retracted backwards, and crashed vertically into a pumpkin field 300 meters east of the departure site. The vehicle was completely destroyed, and the operator and accompanying crew perished.

CONCLUSION

- The flight operation of the vehicle was over the maneuvering limits, causing structural damage and loses of control, resulting in the crash.
- The vehicle did not have import or assemble records from the manufacturer, no subsequent maintenance records, a valid operating and maintenance manual, nor is it registered to a legal activities organization, thus have no effective way to guarantee its flight safety.
- 3. The vehicle did not go through examinations and certification; the operator did not have a valid operating license, and was conducted flight activity in an unapproved area and airspace, thus violating regulations of the Civil Aviation Act.

Safety Recommendations

To ULTRA-LIGHT VEHICLE ORGANIZATIONS

- Regulate vehicle owners and operators to actually follow relevant ultra-light vehicle regulations in conducting legal flight activities. (ASC-ASR-10-03-001)
- Regulate vehicle owners to conduct flight activities in accordance to the limitations in the manuals. (ASC-ASR-10-03-002)
- Regulate vehicle owners and operators to possess and use valid Aircraft Maintenance Manuals, and realistically record and preserve relevant information regarding the installation, usage, and maintenance of the vehicles and engines. (ASC-ASR-10-03-003)

To CIVIL AERONAUTICS ADMINISTRATION, CAA

1. Increase the announcements of legal ultra-light vehicle activities and prosecute illegal activities. (ASC-ASR-10-03-004)

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