

ACCIDENT

Involving the motorised glider registered D-KISR

Event:	Collision with terrain.
Probable cause:	Failure to take into account the meteorological conditions.

Consequences and damage:	Pilot killed, aircraft destroyed.
Type of aircraft:	Glaser Dirks DG 400 motorised glider.
Date and time:	18 September 2000 at about 16 h 00.
Owner:	Private.
Place:	Saint-Jurs (04), Saint-Jurs Pass. altitude: 1225 metres.
Type of flight:	Local.
Persons on board:	Pilot.
Licenses and experience:	Pilot, 60, VV issued by Germany in 1962, 11000 flying hours of which 400 on type and 10 hours in the previous 3 months.
Meteorological conditions:	Estimated at the site: wind 250°/15 to 20 kt, FEW CB at 3500 ft.

Circumstances

The pilot took off from Vinon AD at 15 h 00 for a local flight. The alarm was sounded the same evening by the co-owner of the aircraft. The wreckage was found the next day on the east flank of the Saint-Jurs Pass 40 m from the crest. Examination showed that the motorised glider had struck steep terrain with a road to the west. The engine was in its housing.

Readout of the GPS on the aircraft did not make it possible to reconstitute the flight. Examination of the deceased showed that he had been killed by the impact.

Several hypotheses can be proposed:

- The aircraft was forced down by downdraughts,
- The pilot performed a turn at a speed which was too low in turbulence, leading to a spin by the motorised glider.



