

Inflight loss of window, AgustaWestland AW139, G-SNSI

Den Helder Airport, 7 October 2022

An AgustaWestland AW139 had departed from Den Helder Airport on a post-maintenance check flight. Into the flight, an increase in noise level and air flow from the left-hand side was noticed by the flight crew. The left-hand acrylic window had fallen from the helicopter. The crew maintained control of the helicopter and landed without further incident at Den Helder Airport. The window was recovered. No persons on the ground were injured, or third party property damaged.

The Dutch Safety Board has decided to discontinue its investigation into this occurrence. The occurrence was reclassified as an incident. Additionally, the operator has conducted an internal investigation and identified several contributing factors regarding maintenance of the window from which lessons can be learned.

Classification: Incident

Reference: 2022145



▲ The glider after the ground loop. (Source: Dutch Aviation Police)

Ground loop during winch launch, PZL-Bielsko SZD-51-1 "Junior", PH-934

Lemelerveld glider airfield, 19 April 2023

As sole occupant of the Junior, the pilot was ready for a winch launch from Runway 09 at Lemelerveld glider airfield. The wind was blowing in an east-north-easterly direction, at a speed of approximately 10 knots. After the glider had started its takeoff and the wing walker had let go of the wing tip, the wings were horizontal. After approximately 10 metres, the left-hand wing tilted downwards. The wing tip then became caught in the grass causing the aircraft to make a ground loop whereupon it came to rest upside down. The pilot reported not having noticed that the tip had touched the ground; he had released the winch cable when he saw the right-hand wing tip rising. The pilot suffered minor injuries. The aircraft suffered severe damage.

The total glider experience of the pilot amounted to 198 takeoffs and 54 hours flying, of which 42 takeoffs and 14 hours in the aircraft type in question.

The gliding club conducted an investigation into this occurrence and shared the results with the Dutch Safety Board.

Classification: Accident

Reference: 2023047