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Investigation of aviation accident near Reinsvoll airport in Innlandet county, Norway

On Monday 28 August a Christen Eagle II airplane crashed just south of Reinsvoll Airport. Both the pilot and the passenger were killed in the accident.

The Norwegian Safety Investigation Authority (NSIA) arrived at the site of the accident the following day and started investigations. The airplane was subsequently transported to NSIA's facilities in Lillestrøm for further examination.

Several witnesses have come forward.

NSIA has started a full investigation of the accident.

Update 10 January 2024

The cause of the accident is still unknown.

NSIA has, based on videos, pictures and witness statements, established a preliminary course of events of the flight. After taking off at 1817 hours local time they appear to have flown sightseeing in the area east of the airfield. After approximately 20 minutes flight they crossed over the northern end of the runway on a westbound course. 7 minutes later, at approximately 1845, they returned to the airfield where they conducted a few aerobatic manoeuvres over the next 3-4 minutes. Videos and pictures indicate that they completed three loops and one aileron roll, but it could have been more. Based on the audio from the videos the engine appears to have operated normally during these manoeuvres. After the last loop the airplane continued southbound. Less than three minutes later the airplane was again inbound the airfield, possibly on a left base to runway 34. Several witnesses have explained that the airplane suddenly dropped the nose almost straight down from level flight, before it disappeared and they heard noises, most likely from the airplane cutting the trees or impacting the ground.

Several witnesses have reported to have heard the airplane during the flight and thought the noise from engine was abnormal, as if it was running rough or backfiring. So far it has been

difficult to build a clear picture of when and where the airplane was when they heard this. One of the trees at the site of the accident was cut in a way that suggests the propeller was rotating as the airplane went down. There are other signs as well that the engine was running at the time of the accident. Inspections of the engine, propeller and fuel supply systems have not uncovered any technical faults. However, engine problems cannot be excluded as a cause or contributing cause to the accident.

Preliminary estimates indicate that weight and balance was within limits throughout the flight. The fuel quantity at the time of the accident is estimated to approximately 20 litres.

The investigation into the accident will continue.



The crash site. Photo: NSIA

Status of investigation

The investigation is ongoing.

Latest update: 16.09.2024.

Facts

Location Reinsvoll Airport, Innlandet county, Norway

Occurrence date 28.08.2023

ICAO Location indicator ENRV

Aircraft Other light aeroplane

Operator Private

Registration LN-TBN

Meteorological conditions VMC

County Innlandet

Type of occurrence Accident

Type of operation Private

Category of operation Light, aeroplane (< 5 700kg)

Aircraft category Landplane, Single-engine, Piston engine

FIR/AOR ENOS (Oslo ATCC)

NSIA conducts its investigations for the sole purpose of improving transportation safety. The object of a safety investigation is to clarify the sequence of events and root cause factors, study matters of significance for the prevention of transportation accidents and improvement of transportation safety, and to publish a report with eventually safety recommendations. NSIA shall not apportion any blame or liability. Use of information from this investigation for any other purpose than for improvements of transportation safety shall be avoided.