

ACCIDENT

involving the motorised glider registered D-KCDW

D-KCDW OF 21 JULY 1999

Event:	Collision with terrain.
Cause:	Unknown.

Consequences and damage: Pilot killed, glider destroyed.

Type of aircraft: Schleicher ASH 26 E single-seat motorised glider.

Date and time: Wednesday 21 July 1999 at 17 h 00.

Owner: Private.

Place: La Roche Bernaude (05), peak of La Planette, altitude 2979 metres.

Type of flight: Local to Ste Croix du Verdon (83).

Persons on board: Pilot.

Licenses and experience: Pilot, 72, VV issued by Germany in 1997, 292 flying hours, all on type and 61 in the previous 3 months.

Meteorological conditions: Estimated at the site: wind 270° to 300°/24 to 26 kt, visibility over 10 km, scattered Ac towards 3200 m, temperature 3 °C, turbulence moderate locally strong, the flow from the west was sufficient to generate an orographic wave with downdraughts near the crest.

Circumstances

The glider struck the terrain at low speed on an east facing slope, under the wind from the crest.

The pilot's limited experience in relation to his age and the possible strong turbulence near to the crests may be considered factors likely to cause the accident.

