



BHPA Incident Report: GBR-2015-2178

INCIDENT

Aircraft Type:	Ozone Geo paraglider and Bruce Goldsmith Design “Snug” harness with Gin Yeti 35 parachute.
Certification:	Paraglider - En B
Manufacture Date:	Unknown
Location:	Levante, Algodonales, Spain.
Date and Time:	21 st June 2015. Time 15.40
Type of Flight:	Ridge soaring.
Persons Involved:	Paraglider pilot.
Injuries:	Fatal
Nature of Damage:	Unknown
Pilot’s Rating/Licence:	BHPA Club Pilot (novice) rating awarded 23 rd May 2005.
Pilot’s Age:	Unknown
Pilot’s Experience:	Unknown
Information Source:	Witness statement.

Synopsis

The pilot took off into a thermal and was immediately lifted to approximately 50m above the ground. The glider then suffered a large asymmetric collapse from which the pilot was unable to regain control before impacting the rocky hillside where she sustained fatal injuries.

History of the flight

At Approximately 15.40 Pilot A took off into a thermal cycle. She climbed to approximately 50m at which point her glider suffered a 50% asymmetric collapse. The glider entered a spiral dive and within three seconds Pilot A had crashed into the rocky hillside at speed. During the incident Pilot A did not make any obvious corrective inputs, and she did not attempt to deploy her emergency parachute. The emergency services were called but the pilot died from the injuries sustained.

Additional information

The conditions on the day were thermic with a wind speed of 5 to 10km/h. Occasional strong thermal gusts were in the region of 25 to 30km/h.

Findings

The Investigation found that the incident occurred as a result of the pilot losing control of her glider in thermic conditions while in close proximity to the hillside.

Recommendations

None