



State Commission on Aircraft Accidents Investigation
SERIOUS INCIDENT 2022/6070
RESOLUTION
of 23rd December 2022

Type and model of aircraft:	Glider, SZD-50-3 „Puchacz”
Registration marks:	SP-3288
Date of occurrence:	14 th October 2022
Place of occurrence:	EPRU (Częstochowa/Rudniki)

After reviewing the investigation Final Report provided by SCAAI Member, pursuant to Article 138 of The Act of 3rd July 2002 – Aviation Law (with further amendments) and § 16 of the Regulation of Minister of Transport of 18 January 2007 on air accidents and incidents, State Commission on Aircraft Accidents Investigation determined that:

1. The course of the occurrence was as follows:

On the day of 14 October 2022 at EPRU aerodrome the crew consisting of a student and his instructor performed flights with SZD-50-3 "Puchacz" glider to practice basic aerobatics figures. During the inspection prior the next take-off the student occupying the front seat found that one rudder pedal was completely broken. Further flights were abandoned and the affected glider was withdrawn from service.

2. Cause of the occurrence:

Progressive (fatigue) cracking of the rudder pedal suspension axle, which led to the axle breaking and separation of the pedal from its support.

3. Contributing factors:

- 1) Probably an accident that the glider sustained in the past (in 2009) in which the pedal suspension axle may have been damaged.
- 2) Lack of precise guidelines for pedal condition check during scheduled maintenance (1000-hour inspection).
- 3) Significant time of operation (TSN) of the glider (since 1984).
- 4) The nature of aerobatic flights (decisive control).

4. The Commission accepted the following preventive measures proposed by the operator:

Not formulated.

5. In addition, the Commission has proposed the following safety recommendations:

Not formulated.

Investigator-in-Charge

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(signature on original)

SCAAI Chairman

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