

State Commission on Aircraft Accidents Investigation SERIOUS INCIDENT 2022/4974 RESOLUTION of 12th December 2022

Type and model of aircraft:	Glider, SZD-9 bis "Bocian 1E"
Registration marks:	SP-3110
Date of occurrence:	27 th August 2022
Place of occurrence:	Częstochowa/Rudniki (EPRU)

After reviewing the investigation Final Report provided by the aircraft user, pursuant to article 135 of The Act of 3rd July 2002 – Aviation Law (with further amendments) and § 18 of the Regulation of Minister of Transport of 18 January 2007 on air accidents and incidents (with further amendments), State Commission on Aircraft Accidents Investigation determined that:

1. The course of the occurrence was as follows:

During initial phase of the winch take-off for the solo flight on SZD-9 bis "Bocian 1E" the rear part of the canopy detached from the glider.

Initially the canopy was hanging on antenna, but after the release of towline and increase speed the canopy moved backwards and hit horizontal stabilizer, broke away and get into its caisson. It remained there until the glider came to rest after landing. The pilot performed regular aerodrome traffic circuit and safely landed on the airfield. He did not suffer injuries. The glider sustained damage.

2. Cause of the occurrence:

Probably, omitted check of the canopy locking directly before the take-off.

3. Contributing factors:

- 1) Only two solo take-offs performed by the pilot on the type of SZD-9 bis in the current season and the resulting lack of practice.
- 2) Directly before the flight focusing on the portable electronic devices taken on board instead on cockpit preparation for the take-off.
- 3) Failure to perform the pre-flight check just before the take-off.

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

- 1) Before the next solo flight the pilot passed an exam in the scope of *Flight Manual* of the SZD-9 bis "Bocian 1E".
- 2) The occurrence was discussed with the glider pilots, special attention was paid on pre-flight and pre-take-off inspections.
- 3) Helpers at the launch point were instructed how to secure the canopies in SZD-9 bis "Bocian 1E" gliders in case of solo flights.

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

Not formulated.

Investigator-in-Charge

SCAAI Chairman

Signatures on original only