

**No: 6/92**

**Ref: EW/G92/04/08**

**Category: 2b**

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Aerospatiale AS355F1 Ecureuil II, G-BPRJ

**No & Type of Engines:** 2 Allison 250-C20F turboshaft engines

**Year of Manufacture:** 1982

**Date & Time (UTC):** 9 April 1992 at 2259 hrs

**Location:** Inverie, North West Highlands

**Type of Flight:** Public Transport

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1                      Passengers - 1

**Injuries:** Crew - None                      Passengers - None

**Nature of Damage:** Main and tail rotors damaged, horizontal stabiliser, tail boom and skids damaged

**Commander's Licence:** Airline Transport Pilot's Licence (H)

**Commander's Age:** 30 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 3,579 hours (of which 39 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The helicopter was landing at a private strip which had been previously surveyed as suitable and provided with a visual landing aid, comprising a square of orange lights with a white light to indicate the wind direction. The wind at the time was 200°/15-20 kt. The marked square was in a 490 x 150 metre grass field, but positioned only 27 and 35 metres from the two edges of the field forming the northern corner.

Whilst making the approach to land in what the pilot describes as a "helipad technique", shortly after passing through 90 feet and reducing the speed, the aircraft began to vibrate and the rate of descent increased. Control was maintained and a firm run-on landing was made.

Subsequent examination of the helicopter showed that it had struck a tree on the approach.