

Reims Cessna F152, G-OPAM

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/99 **Ref:** EW/G99/10/11 **Category:** 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Reims Cessna F152, G-OPAM

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1978

Date & Time (UTC): 5 October 1999 at 1715 hrs

Location: Stapleford Aerodrome, Essex

Type of Flight: Private (Training)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Left main wheel fairing and minor damage to left tailplane leading edge

Commander's Licence: Student Pilot

Commander's Age: 22 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 37 hours (all on type)

Last 90 days - 30 hours

Last 28 days - 12 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the CFI

After a 30 minute dual check with an instructor, the student was sent for a solo consolidation flight in the circuit. After three successful solo circuits, each with a touch and go landing, the fourth approach resulted in a touchdown which was to the left of the centreline of the grass Runway 04. The student pilot then retracted the flaps for a further take off. However, the aircraft was veering to the left and, when power was applied, the aircraft veered further left for about 30 metres before hitting a wooden runway marker board. The student indicated that he had applied right rudder in an attempt to keep the aircraft straight, but was concerned that if he applied too much pedal pressure, the aircraft would 'tip up'.

On reflection, the student considered that, on realising the aircraft was to the left of centreline, he should have initiated a go-around prior to touchdown.