

<b>Aircraft type and registration:</b>	Cessna 404 Ambassador G-BKWA (twin piston-engined commuter aircraft)	
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1977	
<b>Date and time (GMT):</b>	25 June 1984 at 1130 hrs	
<b>Location:</b>	East Midlands Airport	
<b>Type of flight:</b>	Non Scheduled passenger	
<b>Persons on board:</b>	Crew — 2	Passengers — 6
<b>Injuries:</b>	Crew — Nil	Passengers — Nil
<b>Nature of damage:</b>	Nose landing gear collapsed, both propellers damaged and engines shock loaded	
<b>Commander's Licence:</b>	Air Transport Pilot's Licence	
<b>Commander's Age:</b>	29 years	
<b>Commander's total flying experience:</b>	4495 hours (of which 1076 were on type)	
<b>Information Source:</b>	Aircraft Accident Report submitted by the commander.	

The accident occurred when braking on the left main wheel was lost while taxiing for take-off for the fourth flight of the day. On entering a gentle left turn in the taxiway at a speed described as a good walking pace the co-pilot experienced sudden difficulty in steering the aircraft. Left brake pedal application by both pilots had no effect. With the aircraft approaching the right side of the taxiway insufficient room was available to turn using differential power without risking running off the taxiway under high power. The throttles were closed and an attempt was made to stop using the right brake and rudder. A swing to the right developed and the nosewheel ran off onto the grass and collapsed, causing the left propeller to strike the ground and the right propeller to strike the taxiway surface.

Brakes reportedly operated normally during taxi checks immediately before the accident and when checked shortly after the accident. However, during post-accident checks it was reportedly found possible to bottom the master cylinder pistons if repeated brake application were made over several minutes without full pedal release between applications, with brakes returning to their normal state when both pilots pedals were released. No defects were found when the brake system was subsequently stripped.