

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Boeing A75N1 Stearman, G-BTFG	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Continental Motors Corp W-670-6N piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1940	
Date & Time (UTC):	14 October 2011 at 1410 hrs	
Location:	Manston Airport, Kent	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Left wingtip and aileron were damaged	
Commander's Licence:	Commercial Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	58 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	928 hours (of which 8 were on type) Last 90 days - 84 hours Last 28 days - 20 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot was flying circuits to Runway 10 at Manston Airport. The weather conditions were good, with a surface wind from 120° at 10 kt. The aircraft was reported to have landed after the fourth circuit, at the correct speed, on the runway centreline in the target area the pilot had selected. The aircraft touched down on its main wheels and the pilot held the tailwheel off the runway surface. As the aircraft's speed decayed to a fast walking speed, the tailwheel started to settle and the aircraft suddenly veered to the right. The aircraft

ground looped through 360°, during which the left wingtip and aileron made contact with the runway. The pilot was uninjured.

The pilot was not aware of any weather conditions which could have induced the sudden turn to the right, concluding that he had relaxed as the aircraft's speed decayed and did not apply the appropriate amount of rudder to counter the initial yaw.