

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Rotorsport UK MTOSport, G-CGGV	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 912 ULS piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2009	
Date & Time (UTC):	5 June 2011 at 0930 hrs	
Location:	Culbokie Airfield, Dingwall, Inverness	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Damage to the nose landing gear, pod, rotor blades and rudder	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	62 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	184 hours (of which 103 were on type) Last 90 days - 19 hours Last 28 days - 9 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The gyroplane was departing from Runway 03. The takeoff weight was 489 kg, which was within the maximum permitted takeoff weight of 500 kg. The weather was CAVOK, with a light and variable wind from the north-northeast, with occasional stronger gusts. The pilot had previously operated from the airfield and the takeoff seemed to be normal.

As the gyroplane began to climb, a left turn through approximately 90° was made in order to avoid some trees on the extended centreline. As the turn was commenced, it was not possible to maintain the angle of climb and the rotor blades contacted the top of a tree.

The pilot made a controlled descent into a clearing but, due to the lack of space, this resulted in a heavy landing. The nose landing gear detached, the underside of the pod was damaged and the flailing rotor struck and dislodged the rudder. The pilot and his passenger were uninjured.

From the evidence of witnesses who observed the departure, the pilot concluded that there had been a strong gust of wind which had veered through some 90°. This placed the gyroplane downwind and resulted in the reduction in the rate of climb.