

Reims Cessna F406, PH-FWD

AAIB Bulletin No: 9/98 Ref: EW/G98/03/02 Category: 1.2

Aircraft Type and Registration: Reims Cessna F406, PH-FWD

No & Type of Engines: 2 Pratt & Whitney Canada PT6A-112 turboprop engines

Year of Manufacture: 1986

Date & Time (UTC): 5 March 1998 at 1400 hrs

Location: Between Glasgow and Edinburgh

Type of Flight: Positioning Flight

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Lower section of main entry door detached

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence (Dutch)

Commander's Age: 31 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 3,000 hours (of which 400 were on type)
Last 90 days - 250 hours
Last 28 days - 75 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was on a positioning flight from Glasgow to Edinburgh Airport. About 10 minutes into the flight, at an altitude of 4,000 feet, the 'door unlocked' caption on the warning panel illuminated. The handling pilot reduced speed to about 160 kt whilst the other crew member went aft to visually check the door where he found that all the handles and latches were correctly stowed. However, about 2 minutes later the upper door opened suddenly, followed about 30 seconds later by the lower door which broke away from its hinges in the slipstream. It has not been recovered at the time of preparation of this Bulletin.

As the aircraft seemed to handle normally, the flight was continued to Edinburgh, where Air Traffic Control were informed of what had occurred. The aircraft landed without further incident. The

pilot-in-command has stated that the door closing procedures were correctly followed prior to the flight but "the lock pins must have not locked properly".