

No: 8/88

Ref: EW/G88/03/16

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Sipa 903, G-SIPA

No & Type of Engines: 1 Continental Motors Corp C90-8F piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1951

Date and Time (UTC): 20 March 1988 at 1450 hrs

Location: Private strip, South Scarle, near Newark

Type of Flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - 1 (Minor) Passengers - 1 (Minor)

Nature of Damage: Substantial

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 50 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 145 hours (of which 20 minutes were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was carrying out a landing at the end of his first flight as pilot of the type, having previously undertaken 3 hours passenger flying in a similar machine. He stated that, after a glide from 500 feet, it became obvious that an overshoot would be necessary. Although he applied power gently, the engine did not respond, and he was forced to land in the best field available. Unfortunately, on touchdown the wheels sank into the surface and the aircraft became inverted.

Although preparations have been made to repair the aircraft no attempt has yet been made to carry out a detailed examination of the engine with a view to ascertaining whether any mechanical failure occurred. The pilot reported that the carburettor heat control was out from 1000 feet, fuel was selected on, with sufficient available, and both magnetoes were on.