ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration: Pegasus XL-Q, G-MVRU

No & Type of Engines: 1 Rotax 462 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1988

Date & Time (UTC): 8 August 2009 at 1144 hrs

Location: Brookfield Farm Strip, 14 nm north-east of Lincoln

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Damage to keel, pod, forks and monopole

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 61 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 360 hours (of which 90 were on type)

Last 90 days - 5 hours Last 28 days - 0 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Synopsis

After landing to the left of the centreline, the aircraft drifted further left, off the side of the strip, onto rough ground and rolled onto its side. The aircraft was damaged but the pilot was uninjured.

History of the flight

The aircraft was landing at a private grass airstrip which was 350 m in length, 15 m wide and orientated east-west. The pilot assessed the wind as south-westerly at 5 to 6 kt. Approaching from the east, the aircraft drifted to the right during the flare and the pilot flew a go-around. For the second approach, the pilot elected to land to the left of the centreline but, as the aircraft slowed after touchdown, it drifted further to the left. At about 10 to 12 kt groundspeed, the left main wheel ran off the runway surface onto the

rough ground of the adjacent field, causing the aircraft to yaw to the left and tip over. The pilot later thought that landing offset from the strip centreline was not the best course of action. He also thought that the wind had changed to a more northerly one, contributing to the accident. The pilot, who was wearing a lap strap and protective helmet, was uninjured.

The CAA's General Aviation Safety Sense Leaflet No 12, entitled *Strip Flying*, points to the advice given in Civil Aviation Publication (CAP) 428, entitled *Safety Standards at Unlicensed Aerodromes*, which states:

'Short' (ie those under 800 metres in length) runways should be at least 18 metres wide.

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