

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Mainair Mercury, G-MYCV
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 503 piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1992
Date & Time (UTC):	5 April 2007 at 1230 hrs
Location:	Arclid, near Sandbach, Cheshire
Type of Flight:	Private
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - 1 (Minor) Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Aircraft severely damaged
Commander's Licence:	National Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	48 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	97 hours (of which 65 were on type) Last 90 days - 12 hours Last 28 days - 3 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Synopsis

As the aircraft lifted off during the takeoff, it veered sharply to the right and collided with a substantial hedge.

History of the flight

The pilot and his passenger arrived at the airfield and rigged the aircraft in preparation for a local flight. After completing the pre-flight checks, the pilot taxied the aircraft to Runway 02 and noted that the wind was approximately 5 kt from the northwest. This gave a small crosswind component from the left. Full power was applied for the takeoff run but, as the aircraft lifted

off, it veered sharply to the right and collided with a substantial hedge at the side of the runway. Two other pilots, who were close by, provided assistance to the aircraft occupants and summoned an ambulance. Both were taken to hospital, where the pilot was found to have sustained a broken ankle and rib; the passenger was uninjured.

In a frank statement, the pilot noted that he had not taken account of the increased weight of the aircraft as a result of having a passenger on board and had lifted the aircraft off in a stalled condition.