

**Aircraft type and registration:** Amateur Construction Everett Gyroplane G-BMZS

**No & Type of engines:** 1 Volkswagen 1834 piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1987

**Date and time (GMT):** 23 September 1987 at 1515 hrs

**Location:** Dunkeswell Airfield, Devon

**Type of flight:** Training

**Persons on board:** Crew — 1                      Passengers — None

**Injuries:** Crew — None                      Passengers — N/A

**Nature of damage:** Substantial — to keel, rotor, propeller and broken axle

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 57 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 400 hours (of which 10 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and AAIB telephone enquiry.

The single seat aircraft, flown by a PPL holder who was converting to gyroplanes, was engaged in a circuit exercise on runway 23. The wind was south westerly at 10 kt. An approach to the runway was made simulating reduced power but this was discontinued in the area of the intersection with runway 36. The pilot stated that he had applied full power and instinctively raised the nose of the aircraft, reverting to his fixed wing training.

In order to avoid crossing the airfield perimeter and instead of climbing straight ahead the pilot initiated a right turn from a low height and speed. At this speed full power was insufficient to maintain height and the aircraft descended in the turn until it landed heavily on the grass. The pilot was wearing a full upper torso restraint and was uninjured.