

**AAIB Bulletin No: 5/93**

**Ref: EW/G93/03/07**

**Category: 1c**

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Piper PA-22-108 Colt, G-ARKS

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming O-235-C1B piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1961

**Date & Time (UTC):** 12 March 1993 at 1415 hrs

**Location:** Leicester East Aerodrome, Leicestershire

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1                      Passengers - 1

**Injuries:** Crew - Minor                      Passengers - None

**Nature of Damage:** Aircraft sustained damage that is beyond economic repair

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence with Instrument and IMC ratings

**Commander's Age:** 52 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 2,769 hours (one on type)  
Last 90 days - 5 hours  
Last 28 days - 4 hours

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot, who had recently purchased the aircraft, was carrying out a familiarisation flight with the previous owner at Leicester Aerodrome. The weather conditions were fine with a surface wind of 230°/10 to 15 kt. Due to a saturated surface the grass Runway 06/24 was not available and the tarmac Runway 10/28 was in use.

The pilot reports that following a second circuit, with the intention of carrying out a touch and go, the aircraft was landed on the right side of the runway. Due to the effect of what appeared to be a strengthening cross wind, it then drifted further to the right and the pilot was unable to prevent the aircraft leaving the tarmac surface at a speed of between 30 to 40 mph. It crossed a strip of soft grass which slowed the aircraft before it ran onto an area of cultivated ground. This surface was extremely soft and the nose landing gear immediately dug in and the aircraft tipped over and came to rest inverted. Both occupants had been secured by full upper torso restraint harnesses which held throughout and they were able to release themselves from the aircraft without assistance.