

Pitts S-2B, G-SKYD, 21 June 1996

AAIB Bulletin No: 8/96 Ref: EW/G96/06/32 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Pitts S-2B, G-SKYD

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming AEIO-540-D4A5 pistonengine

Year of Manufacture: 1984

Date & Time (UTC): 21 June 1996 at 1658 hrs

Location: Duxford Airfield, Cambridge

Type of Flight: Private (Training)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Damage to tail wheel, rear fuselage and right main landing gear.

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 45 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 4,000 hrs (of which 150 were on type)

Last 90 days - 100 hours

Last 28 days - 40 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft landed normally on tarmac Runway 06 in good weather conditions with a surface wind of 030°/10 kt. Half way into the landing ground roll the aircraft developed a violent swing to the left which was not affected by the application of right brake. During the ground loop to the left the right main landing gear collapsed

Subsequent investigation revealed that the solid rubber tail wheel had become detached from its metal housing and the brake disk on the left wheel was distorted. Engineering investigation could not determine which was the cause and effect.