

No: 8/90 **Ref: EW/G90/05/05** **Category: 1b**

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cessna 421C, G-TELL

No & Type of Engines: 2 Continental GTSIO-520-L piston engines

Year of Manufacture: 1980

Date and Time (UTC): 10 May 1990 at 1825 hrs

Location: Thurrock Airfield, Essex

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 3

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Minor damage to left wing, fuselage and tail area. Damage to left landing gear.

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with Instrument rating

Commander's Age: 57 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 2,576 hours (of which 120 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Having cleared customs at Southend Airport, on an inbound flight from Le Touquet, the pilot took-off for Thurrock Airfield. The weather was generally fine, but he was aware of a storm situated to the north of his track. It was assumed that the storm was heading towards Thurrock and he considered that he could land safely before it arrived. An approach was made to runway 25, a smooth grass strip 600 metres in length. The surface wind was reported as light from the south-west. The touchdown was normal but as soon as he applied brake, it became obvious to the pilot that the runway surface was wet and very slippery, the storm having, in fact, already passed over the airfield. He realised that he would not be able to stop before the end and so decided to 'ground loop' the aircraft, a manoeuvre which was only partially successful as it continued to the left and came to rest with the left wing in a hedge on the southern edge of the runway.

The pilot and passengers were uninjured and disembarked in the normal manner.