

No: 8/86

Ref: 1b

Aircraft type and registration: Cessna 404 G-HIGS

No & Type of engines: 2 Continental Motors Corp GTS10-520-M piston engines

Year of Manufacture: 1977

Date and time (UTC): 12 July 1986 at 0625 hrs

Location: Manchester Airport

Type of flight: Business executive

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — 7

Injuries: Crew — None Passengers — None

Nature of damage: Damaged nosewheel, and superficial damage to runway surface

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 61 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 9700 hours (of which 1000 were on type)

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

The aircraft was on a business flight from Luton to Manchester, with take-off, cruise and touchdown reported to be uneventful. However, when the nosewheel was lowered to the runway, a severe vibration was transmitted to the whole aircraft and was felt through the rudder pedals. The pilot was able to raise the nose for a short distance, but when the speed had decayed to a point where the elevators were ineffective, the nosewheel again contacted the runway and this was once more accompanied by severe vibration. The aircraft stopped after about 20 yards, with the rudder pedals locked in the full right position. There were no injuries.

Inspection revealed that the tyre was destroyed and that about an inch of metal had been ground off the wheel rim. The commander considered that the tyre must have become deflated during the take-off or perhaps later during the flight. This being the case it is probable that the tyre subsequently became shredded during nosewheel spin-up on landing.