

Europa, G-OJHL, 6 June 2002

AAIB Bulletin No: 11/2002	Ref: EW/G2002/06/36	Category: 1.3
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Europa, G-OJHL	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 912-UL piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1999	
Date & Time (UTC):	6 June 2002 at 1501 hrs	
Location:	Prestwick Airport, Scotland	
Type of Flight:	Training	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Propeller blade tips damaged	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilots Licence	
Commander's Age:	67 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	255 hours (of which 85 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 5 hours	
	Last 28 days - 4 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot intended to practise circuit flying at Prestwick Airport from Runway 13, the active runway. As he taxied along taxiway 'T' towards Runway 13 however, the surface wind was reported as 050°/12 kts. He therefore decided to use Runway 03 to reduce the crosswind component. He was subsequently cleared to taxi along the active runway and turn right along taxiway 'S' to the holding point for Runway 03 (see Figure 1). Coincident with this, a Boeing 747, parked into wind on disused Runway 'F', was performing ground power checks. The crew of the 747 had requested a high power engine run but was refused, being informed by ATC that a light aircraft was taxiing behind them. As the Europa crossed 'F' the tailplane and left wing lifted resulting in the propeller tips striking the ground.

The pilot believed that the jet efflux from the Boeing 747, parked in excess of 500 metres from the centreline of Runway 13, caused the upset and in hindsight should have crossed Runway 13 and taxied along taxiway 'R'. The crew of the 747 reported that the engines were at idle power at the

time of the incident.

ATC commented that they can advise on the location of aircraft performing ground runs but it is the responsibility of the individual commander to ensure safe separation.