

No: 5/88

Ref: 2c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Robinson R22 Beta, G-BNBT

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-B2C piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1986

Date and Time (UTC): 29 February 1988 at 1623 hrs

Location: Redhill Aerodrome, Surrey

Type of Flight: Training

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Substantial damage to fuselage and tailboom. Right skid torn off.
Damage to main rotor gearbox and blades

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence/Helicopter

Commander's Age: 33 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 5400 hours (of which 3 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and further inquiries by AAIB

The helicopter was being used for continued familiarisation training by two instructors. During the course of a normal touchdown into wind and following an autorotative descent, the right skid fouled the raised edges of a metal runway marker as the helicopter ran along the grass. The right skid broke off and then the helicopter rolled onto its right side before coming to rest. There was no fire and the two pilots were able to climb out of the left door.

Since the accident, the operator has discontinued practice autorotations towards the marker spots and the latter are to be replaced by sunken cement or chalk marks.