

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	EV-97 TeamEurostar UK, G-CDTU	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 912-UL piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2005	
Date & Time (UTC):	27 May 2012 at 1400 hrs	
Location:	Arclid Airstrip, near Sandbach, Cheshire	
Type of Flight:	Training	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to nosewheel, fuselage underside, wingtip, engine cowling, propeller and main wheel fairings	
Commander's Licence:	Student	
Commander's Age:	49 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	29 hours (of which 29 were on type) Last 90 days - 29 hours Last 28 days - 9 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The student pilot was landing on Runway 20 as part of a qualifying cross-country exercise. The wind was from 120° at 8 to 9 kt. He rounded-out smoothly with right rudder applied to correct for drift caused by the crosswind. On touchdown he held the stick back and centred the rudder in preparation for lowering the nosewheel. At this point the aircraft weathercocked to the left, possibly due to a gust. When he tried to compensate by applying right rudder, he found that

it was ineffective due to the low speed and, with the nose still raised, the aircraft ran off the left side of the runway and into a ploughed field. The rough ground bent the nosewheel back and the propeller struck the ground.

The student said he had learned to lower the nose earlier to maintain control as rudder effectiveness decreases.