

Cessna 172R, G-BXOI

AAIB Bulletin No: 2/99 Ref: EW/G98/11/15 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cessna 172R, G-BXOI

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming IO-360-L2A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1997

Date & Time (UTC): 26 November 1998 at 1600 hrs

Location: Guernsey Airport, Channel Islands

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Substantial to firewall and nosewheel spat

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 63 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 466 hours (of which 24 were on type)
Last 90 days - 2 hours
Last 28 days - 1 hour

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

While approaching Runway 27 with reduced flap due to the strong surface wind of 280°/21 kt, the pilot encountered severe turbulence which caused the aircraft to roll 40° in both directions. The turbulence then reduced but just over the threshold, the aircraft was subjected to a violent updraft followed immediately by an equally violent downdraft. The initial touchdown was normal but then the aircraft became airborne again and following the subsequent heavy landing, the pilot had trouble maintaining the runway centreline.

The pilot considered that the cause of the accident was the severe turbulence encountered on finals and that, with hindsight, he should have executed a go-around when he encountered the first turbulence.

