## SERIOUS INCIDENT

Piper PA 23, N2401Z Aircraft Type and Registration: No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming TI0-540 SER piston engine Year of Manufacture: 1980 Date & Time (UTC): 10 August 2010 at 1553 hrs Location: Bournemouth Airport, Dorset Private **Type of Flight:** Crew - 1 **Persons on Board:** Passengers - 2 **Injuries:** Crew - None Passengers - None None **Nature of Damage: Commander's Licence:** Commercial Pilot's Licence **Commander's Age:** 48 years **Commander's Flying Experience:** 1,150 hours (of which 150 were on type) Last 90 days - 75 hours Last 28 days - 45 hours

**Information Source:** 

Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and further enquiries by the AAIB

The first flight of the day departed Filton with full fuel tanks, landed at Cardiff and flew on to Southampton. On departing Southampton the pilot needed to use excessive right aileron and elected to divert to Bournemouth, declaring a PAN. A go-around was flown from the initial approach to Runway 26 due to positioning problems associated with the control difficulties. The pilot then declared a MAYDAY and elected to carry out a flapless landing on Runway 08. The surface wind was reported as 240° at 14 kt. The touchdown was normal but with the higher speeds associated with the flapless landing, together with the 13 kt tailwind component and wet runway conditions, the pilot decided to overrun rather

than risk bursting the tyres. The aircraft came to rest on the grass past the end of the runway. No injuries or aircraft damage were reported.

The control difficulties arose from a fuel imbalance; the port tanks were found full. The pilot reported that the previous pilot had reported issues with asymmetric fuel readings and so had tried cross-feeding the fuel. The accident pilot stated that he had missed the cross-feed item of the check list at the beginning of the day due to being distracted by a flat battery. He has since amended his own checklist.

© Crown copyright 2011