

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/94

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Category: 1.1

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cessna 650 Citation III, F-GGAL

No & Type of Engines: 2 Garrett TFE-731-3B-100S turbofan engines

Year of Manufacture: 1986

Date & Time (UTC): 29 July 1994 at 1245 hrs

Location: London Gatwick Airport

Type of Flight: Public Transport

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Tread lost from one tyre, landing gear door bent, landing light broken and flap holed

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 44 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 9,225 hours (of which 1,210 were on type)
Last 90 days - 53 hours
Last 28 days - 35 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and investigation report provided by tyre manufacturer

The aircraft which landed after F-GGAL reported debris on the runway and, during the subsequent inspection, pieces of rubber and metal were recovered. F-GGAL was then examined and the damage discovered; the crew had been unaware of the mishap. The main landing gear was of the twin wheel type and the outer tyre on the right gear had shed its tread over its full circumference but had not deflated.

The damaged tyre was returned to the manufacturer for investigation. Most of the carcass' top ply was missing as well as the tread. The tyre was found to have been fully worn and in one particular area there was a blue discoloration on the exposed ply which was an indication of separation between the plies due to severe heat and flexing. This was considered to have been the starting point for the tread separation and had probably been the result of foreign object damage.