

INCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Cameron A-140 Balloon, G-OXBC	
No & Type of Engines:	None	
Year of Manufacture:	2001	
Date & Time (UTC):	18 February 2007 at 1650 hrs	
Location:	Hardwick Park, Standlake, Witney, Oxon	
Type of Flight:	Positioning	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	None	
Commander's Licence:	Commercial Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	58 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	1,002 hours (of which 278 were on type) Last 90 days - 10 hours Last 28 days - 1 hour	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Synopsis

While walking the balloon to a more suitable location after landing, a gust of wind blew it towards a row of trees and the balloon envelope collapsed over some power lines.

History of the flight

At the completion of an uneventful flight, the pilot made a safe landing and the six passengers left the basket. The weather was good with a surface wind of 090°/05 kt. To the north of the landing area was a row of trees and power lines orientated approximately east to west.

The immediate area was wet and slippery and the pilot decided to move G-OXBC to a more suitable and drier

area before deflating the envelope. He left the basket and began to 'walk' the balloon slowly in an easterly direction. After he had gone some distance, a southerly gust of wind caught the balloon and it started to move towards the trees. On the slippery ground, the pilot was unable to stop the movement and the basket came to rest at the base of the trees. The balloon envelope collapsed over the trees and onto the power lines. There was no damage to the power lines which were insulated but the local fire service had to disentangle the envelope from the power lines and the trees.