

No: 1/85

Ref: EW/G84/11/12

**Aircraft type and registration:** Reims Cessna F172M G-BKIJ (light single engined fixed wing aircraft)

**Year of Manufacture:** 1972

**Date and time (GMT):** 24 November 1984 at 1630 hrs

**Location:** Stapleford Tawney Airfield

**Type of flight:** Private/continuation training

**Persons on board:** Crew — 2                      Passengers — 1

**Injuries:** Crew — Nil                      Passengers — Nil

**Nature of damage:** Noseleg detached, damage to propeller and nose structure

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence with IMC and night ratings

**Commander's Age:** Not known

**Commander's total flying experience:** 607 hours (of which 33 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report form completed by CFI.

The nosewheel fell off at take-off, unnoticed by the aircraft's occupants. Following a practise short field landing on the same runway the aircraft tipped onto its nose.

The nosewheel axle was retained on this aircraft by the co-axial stud (Part No 0742410-27) which is part of the speed fairing installation, the fairing having been removed for the winter. In non-faired insallation the axle is retained by a bolt with a single castellated nut. The stud is extended and threaded at both ends to accept the fairing, and castellated nuts at both ends are locked by split pins. One such nut on G-BKIJ was missing with evidence of the split pin having sheared. The reason for the split pin shearing was not determined.