

**No: 11/89**

**Ref: EW/G89/08/20**

**Category: 3**

**Aircraft Type  
and Registration:**

Pterodactyl Microlight G-MBOJ

**No & Type of Engines:**

1 Fuji Japan 336cc 2 stroke piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:**

1980

**Date and Time (UTC):**

6 August 1989 at 1430 hrs

**Location:**

Cholmondeley, Cheshire

**Type of Flight:**

Private (pleasure)

**Persons on Board:**

Crew - 1                      Passengers - None

**Injuries:**

Crew - 1 (serious)      Passengers - N/A

**Nature of Damage:**

Aircraft destroyed

**Commander's Licence:**

No Licence Held

**Commander's Age:**

42 years

**Commander's Total  
Flying Experience:**

150 hours (of which all were on type)

**Information Source:**

Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The surface wind was 10 to 15 kt and there was moderate turbulence near the ground due to surface heating. The aircraft was a two-axis control microlight with pitch control provided by a canard. The pilot had operated the aircraft successfully in similar weather conditions with the canard fitted. On the day of the accident the canard had been broken during the morning and the pilot decided to fly in the afternoon using weight shift for pitch control.

Whilst approaching to land he successfully induced two changes in airspeed by first sitting forward and then moving back. However, as it approached the ground the aircraft began to porpoise, a movement the pilot later attributed to his own overcontrolling aggravated by turbulence. The aircraft eventually struck the ground at a speed of about 30 mph in a 30° nose-down attitude. The pilot was seriously injured and had to be cut from the wreckage.