

Piper PA-23-250, G-WSFT

AAIB Bulletin No:	1/2000	Ref:	EW/G99/10/19	Category:	1.2
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Piper PA-23-250, G-WSFT				
No & Type of Engines:	2 Lycoming IO-540-C4B5 piston engines				
Year of Manufacture:	1977				
Date & Time (UTC):	19 October 1999 at 1500 hrs				
Location:	Runway 09, Bristol (Filton)				
Type of Flight:	Training				
Persons on Board:	Crew - 2 - Passengers - None				
Injuries:	Crew - None - Passengers - N/A				
Nature of Damage:	Substantial to propellers with shock loading to engine. Minor to landing gear doors footstep and antennas				
Commander's Licence:	Airline Transport Pilot's Licence				
Commander's Age:	41 years				
Commander's Flying Experience:	5,400 hours (of which 450 were on type)				
	Last 90 days - 120 hours				
	Last 28 days - 30 hours				
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot				

The student was flying a circuit training detail, using Runway 09 (tarmac surface with an LDA of 2,125 metres) at Filton, to gain experience in handling and basic visual manoeuvring of the aircraft. The weather was fine with a surface wind of 060° to 070°/20 kt.

The student was performing well below the required standard for visual circuits and work on basic control was needed in order for him to achieve the correct final visual approach path. The instructor reported that prior to landing the student forgot to select the landing gear down and, through a combination of distraction and fatigue, the instructor forgot to check. The instructor stated that he had been on duty for 8 hours at the time of the accident and had 14 hours available for rest prior to the commencement of duty.

The aircraft touched down at the start of the runway and slewed to the right stopping on the paved surface to the right of the runway centreline. The instructor and student, who were both wearing lap and diagonal seat belts vacated the aircraft, via the main aircraft exit, without injury.