

# **Rans S6-116, G-BWHK, 29 March 1996**

**AAIB Bulletin No: 5/96 Ref: EW/G96/03/09 Category: 1.3**

**Aircraft Type and Registration:**Rans S6-116, G-BWHK

**No & Type of Engines:**1 Rotax 582 piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:**1995

**Date & Time (UTC):**29 March 1996 at 1251 hrs

**Location:**Northampton (Sywell) Aerodrome

**Type of Flight:**Private

**Persons on Board:**Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

**Injuries:**Crew - None Passengers - None

**Nature of Damage:**Substantial

**Commander's Licence:**Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:**39 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:**280 hours (of which 28 were on type)

Last 90 days - 20 hours

Last 28 days - 2 hours

**Information Source:**Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was using Runway 03 for departure for a local flight; this runway has a grass surface and a TORA of 909 metres. The surface wind was 050°/08 kt, the cloud was scattered at 3,000 feet agl and the visibility was good. Just after G-BWHK became airborne, after a ground roll of approximately 375 metres, the aircraft was seen to roll rapidly to the right and then reverse the roll direction to the extent that the left wing tip contacted the runway surface; G-BWHK rotated left through 180° and came to rest close to the runway centreline.

The pilot reported that he found the controls very 'sloppy' on take off and tried to lower the nose to gain airspeed but the left wing tip struck the ground. He considered that the accident was caused by his take off climb attitude being too high which resulted in his airspeed being too low; his attempt to correct the attitude was too late.