

No: 9/91

Ref: EW/G91/07/24

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Rans S10 Sakota, G-JSCL

No & Type of Engines: 1 Rotax 532 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1990

Date & Time (UTC): 16 July 1991 at 1955 hrs

Location: Holywell, Clwyd

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - Minor Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Severe damage to nose area and landing gear, moderate damage to wing.

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 39 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 90 hours (of which one was on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and telephone enquiry.

After warming up the engine, a power check and the pre take-off vital actions were completed. The aircraft completed the take-off run and initial climb successfully, but at about 80 ft agl the engine failed. The pilot lowered the nose to the glide attitude but he then decided that the aircraft would not clear a dual carriageway ahead and so he lowered the nose further to descend steeply into a field below. The aircraft struck the ground in an attitude some 20 degrees nose down and left wing low. The pilot switched-off the battery and rapidly vacated the aircraft, as fuel was entering the cockpit. However fire did not occur.

The engine had been running on a mixture of four star mogas and two stroke oil. It had accumulated about 9 hours running since new. The pilot considered that the engine had not been sufficiently 'run in' and had seized, or partially seized, during the climb. An aftercast obtained from the Meteorological Office at Bracknell indicated that the dry bulb temperature was about +16° C, with a dew point of about +11° C. Reference to a carburettor icing chart indicated that carburettor icing was not likely under these conditions.