

No: 6/84

Ref: EW/G84/05/07

Aircraft type and registration: Enstrom F28A G-BBAU (light single-engined helicopter)

Year of manufacture: 1972

Date and time (GMT): 17 May 1984 at 1650 hrs

Location: Eastleigh Airport

Type of flight: Private

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — 1

Injuries: Crew — Nil Passengers — Nil

Nature of damage: Damage to right skid, nose and main rotor

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 25 years

Commander's total flying experience: 263 hours (of which 136 were on type)

The helicopter was in the hover awaiting clearance to cross the runway with the relative wind 90° to the left at 10 kt. After clearance to cross had been given the pilot started to move the helicopter forward and despite full left pedal the helicopter yawed to the right. The pilot opened the throttle fully and noticed that the engine rpm had dropped from 2950 to 2500. The pilot lowered the collective lever and the turn decreased, but the helicopter landed heavily on the right skid. After the rotors had stopped the pilot and passenger evacuated the aircraft uninjured. The pilot considered that the accident was caused by over-pitching. A decrease in rotor rpm would also cause a decrease in tail rotor rpm and therefore tail rotor effectiveness.