

Rutan Long-Ez, G-BMUG

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/2004	Ref: EW/G2004/08/10	Category: 1.3
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Rutan Long-Ez, G-BMUG	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-235-L2A piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1986	
Date & Time (UTC):	14 August 2004	
Location:	RAF Kinloss, Morayshire, Scotland	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Propeller and nose wheel damaged	
Commander's Licence:	Airline Transport Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	49 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	In excess 5,000 hours (of which more than 50 were on type)	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

During the landing phase the nose wheel of the aircraft detached and bounced up into the propeller causing damage.

The design of the nose wheel bearing was changed following a number of previous failures but this aircraft had not been fitted with the modified bearing. The pilot considered that a period of taxiing with a seized bearing had resulted in excessive heat build up which in turn led to the failure of the bonding between the glass/metal joint of the nosewheel assembly.