

Enstrom F-28A-UK, G-BBXO

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/2002	Ref: EW/G2002/06/25	Category: 2.3
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Enstrom F-28A-UK, G-BBXO	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming HIO-360-C1A piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1973	
Date & Time (UTC):	22 June 2002 at 1232 hrs	
Location:	Chichester (Goodwood) Airfield, West Sussex	
Type of Flight:	Training	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to right side of fuselage, main and tail rotors	
Commander's Licence:	Student Pilot	
Commander's Age:	50 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	14 hours (all on type)	
	Last 90 days - 14 hours	
	Last 28 days - 7 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The student pilot had been carrying out 1.4 hours of circuit consolidation training, flying solo from the threshold of Runway 32. The weather was good with a surface wind of 240/18 kt. Having completed his circuits, the pilot hover taxied back to the parking area, initially parallel to Runway 32 and then following the south side of Runway 06, which effectively placed the helicopter downwind. The pilot made a spot turn to the right in order to turn the helicopter into wind before landing. Whilst carrying out the spot turn, he allowed the rotor RPM to decay and despite fully opening the throttle, the aircraft lost lift and sank from a height of approximately 5 to 6 feet. The tail rotor struck the ground and the aircraft pitched forward landing heavily on the right skid landing gear, which collapsed causing the main rotor blades to make contact with the ground. When the motion had ceased, the pilot carried out the emergency shut down drills and vacated the aircraft through the normal left side door exit. The Airfield Rescue and Fire Fighting Service arrived within two minutes.

The pilot concluded that in carrying out the spot turn he had allowed the rotor RPM to decay and in an effort to remain airborne, he had over-pitched the helicopter's main rotor blades.