

# Piper PA-28R-180, G-AWFK, 20 June 1996

**AAIB Bulletin No: 9/96 Ref: EW/G96/06/30 Category: 1.3**

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Piper PA-28R-180, G-AWFK

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming IO-360-B1E piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1968

**Date & Time (UTC):** 20 June 1996 at 1415 hrs

**Location:** Hinton-in-the-Hedges Airfield, Northants

**Type of Flight:** Private

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

**Injuries:** Crew - Minor                  Passengers - Minor

**Nature of Damage:** Aircraft destroyed

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence with Night Rating

**Commander's Age:** 62 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 1,484 hours (of which 600 were on type)

Last 90 days - 15 hours

Last 28 days - 6 hours

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

The aircraft was on an approach to Runway 06 which has an asphalt surface 700 metres in length. The pilot reports that he encountered a violent downdraft of wind whilst on short finals which caused the aircraft to strike some power cables supported by poles 25ft tall. The cables were situated approximately 300 metres before the runway threshold. Both occupants received minor injuries in the subsequent ground impact.

At the time of the accident the surface wind was 030/10 kt, the cloud was reported as broken cumulus and strato-cumulus with a base of 2,500 ft and tops at 5,000 ft, the visibility under the cloud layer was good.