

Rutan Long-EZ, G-RAFT

AAIB Bulletin No: 6/2003

Ref: EW/G2003/04/04

Category: 1.3

INCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Rutan Long-EZ, G-RAFT	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Continental O-240-A piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1983	
Date & Time (UTC):	5 April 2003 at 1449 hrs	
Location:	Gloucestershire Airport	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 2	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Nosewheel tyre punctured	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	53 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	890 hours (of which 53 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 20 hours	
	Last 28 days - 6 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

As the nose wheel contacted the ground after a normal landing on the main wheels, the pilot felt a strong vibration. Attributing this to a nosewheel puncture, he elected to raise the nose wheel and allow the aircraft's nose to settle onto the nose-skid. After a straight run of approximately 50 metres on the paved surface, the aircraft came to rest. Except for a punctured nose tyre, the pilot reported that the aircraft suffered no damage.