

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Extra EA 300/L, G-ZXCL	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming AEIO-540-L1B5 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2006 (Serial no: 1223)	
Date & Time (UTC):	7 February 2013 at 1615 hrs	
Location:	Northampton (Sywell) Aerodrome	
Type of Flight:	Training	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to canopy and underside of right tailplane	
Commander's Licence:	Commercial Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	48 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	6,219 hours (of which 13 were on type) Last 90 days - 13 hours Last 28 days - 13 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The aircraft was taking off for a singleton aerobatic training sortie. The first part of the takeoff was uneventful but, at a height of about 50 ft and at a speed of 80 kt, the cockpit canopy suddenly opened. The canopy is a large transparency incorporating the windscreen, hinged on the right and it broke upon contact with the right wing, leaving the frame attached but fully open.

The pilot immediately aborted the takeoff, cut power and landed back on the runway where he shut the aircraft down and vacated it. He concluded that, although he believed that he had performed his pre-flight checks thoroughly, he must have omitted to lock the canopy properly.