

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Aero L-29 Delfin, G-BYCT	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Motorlet M701C-500 turbojet engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1973 (Serial no: 395142)	
Date & Time (UTC):	20 May 2014 at 1300 hrs	
Location:	Near Cranfield Airfield, Bedfordshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 2	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Front canopy detached in flight	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	62 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	13,000 hours (of which 30 were on type) Last 90 days - 30 hours Last 28 days - 13 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot reported that following a normal takeoff, and while climbing through a height of 500 ft, the front right side of the canopy lifted by approximately one inch. As he attempted to pull the canopy down it detached from the airframe. The aircraft was undamaged and landed normally.

The canopy is mounted on the airframe by two hinges fitted to the right side of the canopy and is secured to the airframe by four latches, two on each side. The pilot reported that it is difficult to check that the hooks are engaged in the latches, so after closing and locking the canopy he pushed upwards on the left side to check that it was secure. The pilot believes that the hinges might have been binding slightly which prevented the hooks on the right side from engaging in the latches.

BULLETIN CORRECTION

The pilot had provided the AAIB with the incorrect flying hours for the last 90 days, which had then been published in the AAIB monthly report. The flying hours for the last 90 days, which have been incorrectly stated as 3 hours, should be corrected to read 30 hours.

The online version of this report was corrected on 10 September 2014.