

Thruster TST Mk 1, G-MVOU

AAIB Bulletin No: 4/2004	Ref: EW/G2003/07/32	Category: 1.4
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Thruster TST Mk 1, G-MVOU	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 503 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1989	
Date & Time (UTC):	31 July 2003 at 1242 hrs	
Location:	Horse Leys Farm, Burton-on-the-Wolds, Lincolnshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - 1 (Minor)	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to fuselage and landing gear	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	42 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	615 hours (of which 3 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 43 hours	
	Last 28 days - 17 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

After lift off, at a height of about 30 feet, the engine failed and the nose dropped. Due to the low speed, the pilot was unable to increase the pitch attitude before touchdown and the aircraft struck the runway in a slightly nose-down attitude. Significant damage was caused to the fuselage and landing gear and one wing strut was bent. The pilot was able to evacuate the aircraft unaided, but was advised to wait for assistance because of back pain. However, after a visit to hospital, he was deemed fit to return home.

Examination of the engine found that a 'white residue' was partially blocking the fuel pump and restricting flow at high RPM. The residue was thought to originate from an old fuel pipe that had recently been replaced.