

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Mainair Blade 912, G-MAIN	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 912-UL piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1999	
Date & Time (UTC):	31 March 2008 at 1515 hrs	
Location:	Finmere Airfield, Buckingham	
Type of Flight:	Training	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 2	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Right main landing gear suspension damaged	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Flying Experience:	2,440 hours (of which 997 were on type) Last 90 days - 69 hours Last 28 days - 27 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Synopsis

The aircraft was being flown on a dual training exercise. A practice Engine Failure After Take Off (EFATO) was carried out which resulted in a heavy landing.

History of the flight

The instructor was carrying out a dual training flight with a student. The student had completed 58 hours of dual training on flex-wing microlight aircraft. The weather conditions were fine with a light and variable southerly wind, estimated at around 3 kt. Runway 28 was in use, which has an asphalt surface with an available landing distance of 650 m and a width of 46 m.

A number of practice EFATOs were initiated at a low height. The first two practices resulted in successful landings back onto the runway. On the third practice, the

same recovery action appeared to have been taken but the aircraft developed a high sink rate and landed hard on the runway. The right main landing gear suspension collapsed and the aircraft veered off the right side of the runway. Neither person on board was injured.

The wind, although light, was variable in direction and the instructor considered that the high sink rate could have developed as a result of either a slight tailwind component or disturbed air created by an area of trees located 200 m to the south of the runway.