

Piper PA-31, G-EEJE

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Category: 1.2

INCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-31, G-EEJE

No & Type of Engines: 2 Lycoming T10-540-A2C piston engines

Year of Manufacture: 1972

Date & Time (UTC): 9 September 2001 at 1546 hrs

Location: Cambridge Airport

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 2
Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None
Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Spinner disintegrated damaging right side of aircraft nose.

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilots Licence

Commander's Age: 30 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 383 hours (of which 4 were on type)

Last 90 days - 32 hours

Last 28 days - 26 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

During the take off run on Runway 05, just before the pilot intended to rotate the aircraft, the crew heard a loud 'bang' from the nose area. Although the aircraft continued to run straight and there was no perceptible vibration, the pilot abandoned the take off and taxied clear of the runway.

Having stopped well clear of the runway, the crew got out and inspected the damage. They found that a piece of the right spinner, about 3 inches in diameter and carrying a part of the spinner structure, had torn out and been hurled into the nose of the aircraft causing considerable damage to

two of the skin panels and lodging in the baggage bay. A new spinner was subsequently fitted and the aircraft flown back to its maintenance base for further repairs.

The spinner which failed had been previously repaired.