ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-34-200T Seneca II, G-BCVY

No & Type of Engines: 2 Continental TSIO-360-E piston engines

Year of Manufacture: 1974

Date & Time (UTC): 1 May 2007 at 1044 hrs

Location: Oxford Airport, Kidlington

Type of Flight: Training

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Damage to right landing gear, wing and propeller

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 56 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 9,740 hours (of which 2,900 were on type)

Last 90 days - 155 hours Last 28 days - 53 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Synopsis

Whilst attempting to land in an asymmetric power configuration in crosswind conditions, the aircraft touched down heavily on its right landing gear, causing it to partially collapse. As a result, the aircraft veered off the right side of the runway before coming to rest.

History of the flight

A visual approach was being flown to Runway 01, with asymmetric power, by a student pilot as part of an initial Instrument Rating test with a flight examiner. The student flew a stable approach with the aircraft's heading offset to the right to allow for the cross component of the wind, which was reported on the previous circuit as

varying between 040°/10 kt and 060°/17 kt. However, by aligning the nose of the aircraft with the runway too soon before touchdown, the aircraft began to drift to the left. The student attempted to correct this by lowering the right wing but did not control the rate of descent. The aircraft touched down firmly, right wheel first, with a significant amount of right yaw, causing the partial collapse of the right landing gear to partially collapse. The examiner then took control, but was unable to prevent the aircraft from veering off the right side of the runway onto the grass, where it came to rest. There was no fire and both occupants were uninjured.

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