

Aircraft type and registration: Piel Emeraude CP 301A G-BDDZ (Light single engine fixed wing aircraft)

Year of Manufacture: 1958

Date and time (GMT): 3 June 1984 at 1455 hrs.

Location: Cranwell North Aerodrome

Type of flight: Private

Persons on board: Crew — 1          Passengers — 1

Injuries: Crew — Nil          Passengers — Nil

Nature of damage: Wing main spar cracked — damage to landing gear, propeller and underside of engine and cowlings.

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 41 years

Commander's total flying experience: 130 hours (of which 57 hours were on type)

Information Source: Accident Report Pro-forma completed by the pilot

Following a local flight the aircraft was preparing to land on the grass airfield with a landing direction of 240°. The wind was 180/190° at 10 — 15 knots and the approach was made with low engine power at a speed of 65 — 70 miles per hour (mph). As the aircraft was being flared prior to touchdown it dropped suddenly and struck the ground heavily. It bounced to about 20 feet and although full power was applied the pilot could not prevent it from striking the ground again. Power was removed and the aircraft slid to a halt on its nose. A glider pilot making a similar approach reported a drop in airspeed of 25 mph indicating the possible presence of wind shear.