

No: 7/89

Ref: EW/G89/04/22

Category: 2c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Enstrom F-28-UK, G-BBZS

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming HIO-360-C1A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1973

Date and Time (UTC): 29 April 1989 at 1405 hrs

Location: Clueworth Hall Farm, Tyldesley, Manchester

Type of Flight: Training

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Broken chin window. Severe damage to main rotor blades and head, also to the tail rotor. Tailcone damaged by a main rotor blade.

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 35 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 266 hours (of which 66 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The helicopter took off with half full fuel tanks from Barton airfield at 1410 hrs. It was the intention of the pilot to refuel at Blackpool airport but, on arrival, he was told that the airport was very busy and so elected to return to Barton.

At a position 4 nm north of Barton airfield the helicopter ran out of fuel and the pilot carried out an emergency forced landing in a field. On touchdown the helicopter pitched nose forward, breaking the left cockpit chin window and striking all three main rotor blades on the ground. It then rocked back onto the tail rotor which also contacted the ground.

There was no fire and the restraint harnesses of both occupants withstood the forces of the impact.