

No: 4/83

Ref: EW/G83/03/10

Aircraft: Piper PA34 Seneca II F-GCJJ (light twin engine fixed wing aircraft)

Year of Manufacture: Not known

Date and time (GMT): 25 March 1983 at 1844 hrs

Location: Guernsey Airport

Type of flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 5

Injuries: Crew - nil Passengers - nil

Nature of damage: Substantial damage to both propellers, port engine and nosewheel; severe distortion of forward fuselage causing the windscreen to separate from its frame

Commander's Licence: French Private Pilot's Licence (IFR)

Commander's Age: 37 years

Commander's total flying experience: 501 hours (of which 32 were on type)

The accident occurred when the aircraft was landing on runway 27 at night from an ILS approach. The runway was wet and the surface wind averaged 300°/28 kts. After touching down normally, the aircraft was lifted into the air again by a strong gust from starboard. On the next contact with the runway, the left hand propeller struck the ground followed by the right hand propeller and the aircraft finally landed heavily on its nosewheel. The pilot was able to complete the landing run and clear the runway before stopping to assess the damage. The anemometer record at Guernsey showed the surface wind to have been varying between 290° and 310° with gusts up to 37 kts at the time of the accident.