

Aircraft type and registration: ARV1 Prototype G-OARV

No & Type of engines: 1 Hewland AE75 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1984

Date and time (UTC): 24 May 1986 at 0912 hrs

Location: Sandown Airfield, Isle of Wight

Type of flight: Continuation flying

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — None

Injuries: Crew — None Passengers — N/A

Nature of damage: Damage to nose landing gear and attachment and to left main landing gear fuselage attachment

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 48 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 2409 hours (of which $\frac{1}{2}$ hour was on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and discussion with aircraft manufacturer.

The accident occurred whilst the pilot was taking off on his first solo flight in the aircraft. Shortly after lift-off from Runway 23 the engine lost power. As the aircraft's pitch attitude reduced the engine recovered and a climbing attitude was resumed, but this again resulted in a loss of power. Ignition switches were selected OFF and a straight ahead forced landing carried out. The aircraft touched down immediately beyond the overshoot area and struck a barbed wire airfield boundary fence with the nose leg. The fence slewed the aircraft round and the main landing gear collapsed.

Two electric pumps are provided on this type of aircraft for supplying fuel to the engine. Both pump selector switches were found to be in the OFF position. On subsequent aircraft of this type one fuel pump is operated via one of the three ignition switches.