

**No: 5/91**

**Ref: EW/G91/02/08**

**Category: 1c**

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Piper PA-38-112, G-BPNV

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1978

**Date and Time (UTC):** 16 February 1991 at 1215 hrs

**Location:** Tatenhill (Burton-upon-Trent) Airfield, Staffordshire

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1 Passengers - None

**Injuries:** Crew - None Passengers - N/A

**Nature of Damage:** Aircraft damaged beyond economic repair.

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 36 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 87 hours (of which 4 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft lined-up and commenced a take-off on runway 08 at Tatenhill. The pilot reports that the wind velocity was approximately 12 kt " basically a headwind but with a slight crosswind component from the right". After a ground roll of 50-60 yards the aircraft developed an uncontrollable swing to the left. Realising that he would be unable to complete the take-off run, the pilot reduced power but was unable to prevent the aircraft from leaving the runway whence the right wheel contacted a pile of tarmac resulting in detachment of the entire leg.

Despite examination of the rudder, nosewheel steering and brake systems, no mechanical reason was found for the swing to the left. The pilot considers that the aircraft would probably have received minimal, if any, damage had it not been for the pile of tarmac which had remained by the edge of the runway following local repairs to holes in the runway surface.