

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	(UAS) Yuneec Typhoon H480	
No & Type of Engines:	6 electric motors	
Year of Manufacture:	2017	
Date & Time (UTC):	26 September 2018 at 13:29 hrs	
Location:	RAF St Athan, Wales	
Type of Flight:	Aerial Work	
Persons on Board:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - N/A	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damaged beyond economic repair	
Commander's Licence:	CAA Remote Pilot Competence	
Commander's Age:	50 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	Last 90 days - 7 hours 4 minutes Last 28 days - 2 hours 27 minutes	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The unmanned aircraft (UA) had been flown on several occasions earlier in the day providing aerial imagery for a multi-agency exercise. Prior to the accident flight a new, fully-charged, battery had been installed and no problems were identified during the pre-flight checks. The UA had completed a flight of approximately 12 minutes duration and was returning to the landing site when, at a height of approximately 30 feet, it tilted forward and then "flew into the ground". The UA suffered significant damage but no one was injured and no vehicles or property were damaged. The UA was returned to the manufacturer's agent for testing. No pre-accident defects were identified during the tests. Data, recovered from the UA, showed that during the incident flight no error messages were generated but as it descended to a height of 37 feet electrical power was lost. The manufacturer confirmed that it is possible to operate the Typhoon H480 without the battery being fully installed and secure. Movement of an insecure battery in-flight has previously resulted in a small number of crashes due to electrical power loss.