No: 9/84 MICROLIGHT Ref: EW/G84/06/16

Aircraft type and registration: Mainair Tri-Flyer 440/Southdown Sprint G-MMIR (A single engined 2 seat

microlight aircraft)

Year of manufacture: Unknown

Date and time (GMT): 10 June 1984 at 1100 hrs

Location: Pilling Sands, Nr Fleetwood, Lancashire

Type of flight: Instructional

Persons on board: Crew — 2 Passengers — Nil

Injuries: Crew - 1 (slight) Passengers - N/A

Nature of damage: Severe.

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 28 years

Commander's total flying

experience: 300 hours on microlight aircraft including 250 hours on type (also 10 years

hang-gliding experience).

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report pro-forma submitted by pilot.

The aircraft took off from an unobstructed beach into a light south to south westerly wind. The flight was for instructional purposes with a trainee instructor sitting in the rear seat, and the supervisory instructor, who was also handling the aircraft and acting as a student, in the front seat. The briefed exercise was for a simulated loss of power during the climb-out phase.

At a height of approximately 50 to 70 feet agl the trainee instructor throttled back the power, and the "student" lowered the nose to maintain flying speed. During the ensuing flare, the nosewheel dug into soft sand causing the aircraft to somersault and sustain substantial damage. The trainee instructor was slightly injured.