

No: 4/89

Ref: EW/G89/02/01

Category: 2c

**Aircraft Type
and Registration:**

Enstrom F-28A-UK, G-BATU

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming HI0-360-C1A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1973

Date and Time (UTC): 8 February 1989 at 1217 hrs

Location: Coventry Airport

Type of Flight: Training

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: The helicopter was damaged beyond repair

Commander's Licence: Student Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 34 years

**Commander's Total
Flying Experience:** 19 hours (of which all were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Following a 20 minute instructional flight, involving hovering and manoeuvring, the student was briefed to practice the same exercises, solo, for half an hour. The exercises were uneventful for 25 minutes but then, during a spot turn to the left, he noticed that the main rotor was overspeeding slightly and so closed the throttle a small amount. The main rotor rpm then dropped "below 2750" and, as he attempted to restore the necessary rpm with power, the helicopter yawed to the right and pitched nose-up. He was unable to correct the yaw with left pedal and so he lowered the collective lever and attempted a landing.

The helicopter struck the ground with the left skid, which collapsed. The main rotor also struck the ground and the helicopter rolled onto its side. The student, who had been wearing a full upper torso restraint harness, escaped through the broken perspex of the port door. There was no fire.