

No: 4/92

Ref: EW/G92/01/15

Category: 3

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Gemini Flash II, G-MTDM	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 462 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1987	
Date & Time (UTC):	25 January 1992 at 1308 hrs	
Location:	Haywood, near Callow, Herefordshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - Serious	Passengers - Serious
Nature of Damage:	Severe (presumed beyond repair)	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence (Group A)	
Commander's Age:	55 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	427 hours (one on type)	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot plus telephone inquiries.	

The pilot in command owned a Flash IIA but on this day he was in command of a friend's microlight. His friend, who had no pilot's licence, occupied the front seat and was the handling pilot at the time of the accident. The wind was a light south-easterly and the visibility was reduced to 6½ km by light rain falling from a 1200 feet cloudbase.

The two occupants took-off at 1300 hrs from runway 14 at Haywood strip which is 3 nm south-west of Hereford to practice circuits. On their fourth circuit, at about 70 feet agl the pilot stated that the passenger inexplicably pushed the control bar forward until it touched the compression strut whilst at the same time pulling in the starboard wing. The machine stalled and crashed right wing down into an open patch of ground near the end of the runway. Both occupants sustained limb fractures but were saved from more serious injuries by their full-face helmets.

The pilot in command has since stated that he overestimated his ability to correct from the rear seat any erroneous control input made by the front seat occupant; he did not have an instructor's rating.