



The aircraft operator reported that an instructor who had flown the aircraft on 6 May 2000, reported that he felt an engine vibration in the range 2,100 to 2,300 RPM. It was found that one magneto was retarded by about 4°. The magneto was re-timed and the aircraft was test flown the following day. The engine performed normally and no vibration was experienced throughout the RPM range.

The pilot on the accident flight reported that the pre-flight magneto check was within normal limits and only minor vibration was experienced at cruise power.

### **Take off performance**

The published length of Runway 24 is 457 m and although the slope is initially downhill the remainder of this length has a slight uphill slope; there is about 50 m of grassed area beyond this point. There may have been some soft patches on the runway following recent rain. The operator calculated that the basic take off run required in the prevailing wind and temperature was 323 m; no account was taken of runway slope or surface condition.