

Reims Cessna F172M, G-YTWO

AAIB Bulletin No: 1/98 Ref: EW/G97/10/08 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Reims Cessna F172M, G-YTWO

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-E2D piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1976

Date & Time (UTC): 12 October 1997 at 1450 hours

Location: Cromer Airfield, Norfolk

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - 2

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Substantial damage to aircraft

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 49 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 167 hours (of which 25 were on type)

Last 90 days - 12 hours

Last 28 days - 4 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was en route to Cromer Airfield in Norfolk. On initial radio contact the pilot was passed the airfield details which included Runway 36 as the runway in use, a QFE of 1004 mb and a surface wind of 360 /10 to 15 kt. He was also informed that light rain showers were in the vicinity. Runway 36 is 493 metres long, 23 metres wide and has an upslope gradient of 1.8%. After an initial circuit and go around the pilot positioned the aircraft on finals with full flap selected. The pilot reported that when the aircraft was approximately 50 metres from the runway threshold and with an indicated airspeed of 70 mph it encountered a gust of wind which caused the aircraft to sink rapidly. The aircraft struck the ground short of the runway threshold where the main wheels hit an earth embankment approximately 45 cm high. This caused the aircraft to pitch forward and the propeller struck the ground; the aircraft came to an abrupt halt. Substantial damage was noted to the nose wheel, the left main wheel and the propeller, the bulkhead and the fuselage were creased and the engine had been shock loaded.

