

Aircraft type and registration: Moraine Saulnier MS892E-150 G-BKGA (light single engined fixed wing aircraft)

Year of Manufacture: 1979

Date and time (GMT): 2 April 1986 at 0930 hrs

Location: Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex

Type of flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — 3

Injuries: Crew — None Passengers — None

Nature of damage: Landing gear collapsed with resulting damage to underside of fuselage, wing flaps, and elevators

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 39 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 382 hours (of which 210 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot.

The aircraft was taking off from a private landing strip at Thorpe-le-Soken, for a planned flight to Duxford aerodrome. The take-off surface was wet grass and there was significant cross-wind from the left. The pilot reports that after applying full power and releasing the brakes he had to reduce power momentarily in order to maintain directional control due to the effect of the cross-wind. When full power was restored, the aircraft did not appear to accelerate, and the pilot considered that he was beyond his decision point and that it was not possible to stop within the remaining take-off distance available. The aircraft finally became airborne, just clearing a boundary hedge; however, when the pilot raised the nose further in order to clear some power cables, the aircraft stalled and was crash landed into an adjacent field. The aircraft sustained substantial damage, however the occupants all left the cabin without injury. All seats were fitted with upper torso restraint harnesses which held during the impact.