

Follow-up Action on Occurrence Report

ACCIDENT TO PIPER PA25 PAWNEE, G-BDWL, AT CROWLAND AIRFIELD ON 1 FEBRUARY 2004
(TUG AIRCRAFT CRASHED AFTER PILOT BECAME MEDICALLY INCAPACITATED)

CAA FACTOR NUMBER : F14/2005
FACTOR PUBLICATION DATE : 12 April 2005
OPERATOR : Gliding Club
CAA OCCURRENCE NUMBER : 2004/00599
AAIB REPORT : Bulletin 3/2005

SYNOPSIS

(From AAIB Report)

The Pawnee carried out a normal takeoff towing a glider. At approximately 500 feet it inexplicably turned to the right and entered a descent. The glider released from the tow and was able land normally back on the airfield. The aircraft however, continued its descent striking the ground banked 35° to the right in a 45° nose down attitude. It is probable that the pilot became medically incapacitated in flight before being fatally injured in the impact. One medical related safety recommendation has been made.

FOLLOW UP ACTION

The one Safety Recommendation, made by the AAIB following their investigation, is reproduced below, together with the CAA's response.

Recommendation 2004-101

It is recommended that the Joint Airworthiness Authority (Licensing Sectorial Team) consider supporting a study of the continuing medical fitness of elderly pilots in order to ascertain whether a review of the medical requirements and periodicity for a Joint Airworthiness Authorities (JAA) Class II medical is required or, regardless of medical examination requirements, whether there should be an upper age limit placed on persons wishing to operate aircraft certificated for single pilot operations.

CAA Response

This Recommendation is not addressed to the CAA.

CAA Status - Closed