

LEFT MAIN LANDING GEAR COLLAPSED

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Identification number:	2009076
Classification:	Accident
Date, time ¹ of occurrence:	9 September 2009, 11.16 hours
Location of occurrence:	Groningen Airport Eelde (EHGG)
Aircraft registration:	D-IIYY
Aircraft model:	Cessna 421
Type of aircraft:	Twin-engined propeller aircraft
Type of flight:	Charter flight
Phase of operation:	Landing
Damage to aircraft:	Serious
Cockpit crew:	Two
Passengers:	None
Injuries:	None
Other damage:	None
Lighting conditions:	Daylight

SUMMARY

During the landing on runway 05 of Groningen Airport Eelde, the left main landing gear collapsed. The aircraft veered to the left and came to a standstill alongside the runway in the grass on its left wing. The left main landing gear had separated from the aircraft. Both crew members suffered no injuries.

This report is based on information from the pilot in command and the maintenance service centre which carried out an initial damage assessment. No further investigation and analysis has been performed.

¹ All times in this report are local times, unless otherwise specified.

FACTUAL INFORMATION

History of flight

The Cessna 421 with registration D-IIYY made a flight from Aschaffenburg (EDFC) in Germany to Groningen Airport Eelde. The crew consisted of two pilots. No passengers were onboard. At Groningen Airport Eelde runway 05 was in use for take-off and landing. According to the pilot in command the landing gear had been selected down during the approach. Three green lights in the cockpit confirmed that the landing gear was down and locked. The flaps were fully extended during the approach and landing. During the rollout after landing the aircraft suddenly banked and the aircraft slid off the runway to the left. The aircraft came to rest in the grass on the left wing. Both pilots left the aircraft unhurt. The aircraft was seriously damaged.



Figure 1: D-IIYY after the accident

Damage

The initial damage assessment revealed that the outer tube of the left main landing gear had failed. The failed landing gear revealed crack growth in the landing gear outer tube which had weakened its strength. The crack might have been initiated by internal pitting corrosion that was observed on the outer tube. Eventually the load upon the outer tube during landing caused the tube to fail, resulting into a gear collapse.



Figure 2: the failed left main landing gear outer tube