IDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-16, EI-AEL

No & Type of Engines: 1 x Lycoming O-235-C1B piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1949

Date & Time (UTC): 3 October 2015 at 1328 hrs

Location: Enniskillen Airport, County Fermanagh

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Damage to right main landing gear, propeller

and right wing

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 73 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 1,623 hours (of which 1,520 were on type)

Last 90 days - 24 hours Last 28 days - 11 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the

pilot

The aircraft was landing on Runway 15 at Enniskillen, having flown in from Letterkenny Airfield, County Donegal. Following an approach which was "entirely stable in terms of height and speed", the aircraft touched down but immediately ground-looped to the right, coming to rest with the right main landing gear collapsed inwards underneath the fuselage. Examination showed that several structural elements of the right main landing gear had broken, apparently in overload, consistent with right sideslip being present at touchdown. The pilot is unsure whether the ground loop occurred as a result of the collapse or had precipitated the collapse. He suggested that the right brake may have been locked on for some reason, although the wheel was found to rotate normally.

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