SUMMARY

The occurrence took place in conjunction with a short local flight from Linköping/Saab Airport (ESSL), where it was also planned that the landing would take place. The pilot and one passenger were on board.

The approach to runway 11 proceeded along a normal glide path and the touch-down point was approximately 300 metres down the runway. After a short roll on the runway, the aeroplane began to yaw to the left and roll to the right. As a result, the aeroplane ended up in an uncontrolled yaw, known as a ground loop, and exited the runway resulting in broken landing gear and damage to the right wing.

The instantaneous wind on runway 11 at the time of the accident was from the north-east at 5–8 knots and there were no gusts that differed markedly from the average wind speed.

During the accident, the right landing gear was broken at its attachments to the structure of the aeroplane and folded under the fuselage. The bolt for the inboard attachment of the landing gear was bent and parts of the threads were damaged. The nut for the bolt was missing and has not been found. The overall picture of the sequence of events indicates that the threads on the nut have sheared off as a result of an instantaneous overload in the longitudinal direction of the bolt. Potential defects in the bolted joint with regard to tightening torque or worn threads on the nut may have weakened the joint.

The accident was caused by continuing the attempt to land despite several bounces having occurred.

Contributing factors to the accident were the pilot's limited experience of the aircraft type and the fact that touchdown unintentionally took place on the main landing gear rather than the planned three-point landing.

The damage was caused by the substantial lateral forces on the wheel, which led to the inboard bolted joint of the right landing gear being overloaded, the landing gear folded and broke off, after which the right wing hit the ground and suffered structural damage.

It cannot be ruled out that there were deficiencies in the bolted joint caused by insufficient tightening torque or wear of the nut.

Safety recommendations

None.