

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199003046**

Cessna 404

25 January 1990

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NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at www.atsb.gov.au.

Occurrence Number: 199003046

Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: Kowanyama QLD

Date: 25 January 1990

Time: 1155

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	1
Total	0	0	0	2

Aircraft Details: Cessna 404

Registration: VH-SBG

Serial Number: 404-0095

Operation Type: Charter

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Kowanyama QLD

Departure Time: N/A

Destination: Normanton QLD

Approved for Release: 13th December 1990

Circumstances:

During the take-off run, as power was being increased, the nose wheel broke through the runway surface and the nosegear leg collapsed. The central area of sections of the runway had previously been filled with coarse river gravel. This fill had then been overlaid with finer material and bonded with an oily fluid. When the aircraft broke through the top crust, the wheels sank readily into the gravel and the nose leg was torn from the aircraft.

Significant Factors:

The following factors were considered relevant to the development of the accident

1. The runway surface was of inadequate strength for the operation.
2. Overload failure of nosegear mounting. This accident was not the subject of an on-scene investigation.