

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198600714**

Glasser Dirks DG400

22 November 1986

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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: 198600714
Location: Gawler SA
Date: 22 November 1986
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1000

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

Aircraft Details: Glasser Dirks DG400
Registration: VH-HDE
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Private (Cross country gliding)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Gawler SA
Departure Time: N/A
Destination: Waikerie SA

Approved for Release: May 7th 1987

Circumstances:

Before lining up for takeoff, the motor glider pilot estimated that there would be sufficient time for his takeoff to be completed between a landing glider, and the tug aircraft that had just joined the circuit. The takeoff was delayed by the time taken to clear the landing glider from the strip. The tug aircraft, just prior to turning final, was observed to increase power and head towards the departing motor glider which had just commenced its takeoff run. It passed low over the motor glider and the tow rope struck the right aileron of that aircraft. The glider pilot had lined his aircraft up for takeoff on the strip the tug pilot intended to use for landing. The tug pilot stated that his intention was to teach the glider pilot a lesson not to attempt to takeoff in front of him again. In taking this action the tug pilot forgot that the tow rope was still attached and trailing his aircraft.