

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198503519**

Cessna 172N

27 June 1985

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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: 198503519 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

Location: Cape Keer-weer, 147 km South of Weipa QLD

Date: 27 June 1985 **Time:** 0930

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	3
Total	0	0	0	4

Aircraft Details: Cessna 172N

Registration: VH-WHK

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Business

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Cape Keer-weer QLD

Departure Time: 930

Destination: Musgrave Station QLD

Approved for Release: 16th August 1985

Circumstances:

The pilot stated that just after the aircraft became airborne it encountered a strong gust of wind. The left wing tip and nosewheel struck the ground and the aircraft overturned. During the take-off run the pilot held back pressure on the control column and at 50 knots selected 10 degrees of flap, the aircraft becoming airborne after a ground roll of only 170 metres. The take-off distance required was 650 metres, however, the take-off was attempted on an unprepared salt pan with an available take-off distance of 300 metres. The pilot had operated from this area previously but on this occasion the aircraft was at a higher all up weight. The wind gust reported by the pilot was probably associated with a willy willy, encountered when the aircraft was at a low airspeed.