

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198500656**

Cessna 404

14 April 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: 198500656 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

Location: Lake Coonamooranie (55 km NW of Moomba) SA

Date: 14 April 1985 **Time:** 733

Highest Injury Level: Minor

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	1	7
Total	0	0	1	8

Aircraft Details: Cessna 404

Registration: VH-LAD

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Carriage of Passengers

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Adelaide SA

Departure Time: 0733

Destination: Lake Coonamooranie SA

Approved for Release: 14th August, 1985

Circumstances:

During the landing roll the aircraft suddenly veered to the left. The pilot took corrective action but the nose gear collapsed and the nose section of the aircraft struck the strip surface. Although the strip was in regular use it was not being inspected. It was constructed on a dry lake-bed and the combination of no rain and regular use caused a soft patch to develop about 430 metres from the threshold. When the aircraft entered this area the nosewheel progressively turned left until it reached the stop. The sideload now imposed was too great and caused the noseleg bearing to fail.