

OA2026-00097 - Occurrence Details

Occurrence

Logged date	1/23/2026 12:21:20 AM			
Status	Approved for release			
Occurrence class	Serious incident			
Highest injury	Nil			
Occurrence date	1/22/2026			
Occurrence time	21:50 EST			
Public summary	<p>The ATSB is investigating a near collision involving Cessna 172S, VH-KOJ, and Cirrus SR22, VH-XC5, about 22 km south-south-east of Melbourne Airport, Victoria, on 22 January 2026.</p> <p>During cruise, the crew of the Cessna 172S detected the Cirrus SR22 in close proximity on a crossing track. The pilot of the SR22 also identified the conflict and conducted a descent below the lowest safe altitude to increase separation. The investigation is continuing.</p>			
Property damage	No			
Property damage details				
Worst accident outcome	Major accident			
Defence effectiveness	Minimal			
Risk rating	Medium (100)			
ERC justification				
TSI reportable	Immediately reportable			
Ground injuries	Fatal	Serious	Minor	Total
				0

Location

Location	21.8 km 153 degrees from Melbourne Aerodrome		
Latitude	Section 47E(d)		
Longitude			
State	VIC		
Country	Australia		

Aircraft

Registration	VH-KOJ
Type	Aeroplane
Manufacturer	TEXTRON AVIATION INC.
Model	172S

Engine type	Piston
Engine manufacturer	LYCOMING
Engine model	IO-360-L2A
Number of engines	1
Landing gear type	Tricycle - Fixed
Fuel type	Gasoline
Year of manufacture	2018
Amateur built	
Maximum takeoff weight (kg)	1160
ELT Type	
ELT Fitted	Unknown
ELT Activated	

Registration	VH-XC5
Type	Aeroplane
Manufacturer	Cirrus Design Corporation
Model	SR22
Engine type	Piston
Engine manufacturer	CONTINENTAL MOTORS INC.
Engine model	IO-550-N
Number of engines	1
Landing gear type	Tricycle - Fixed
Fuel type	Gasoline
Year of manufacture	2023
Amateur built	
Maximum takeoff weight (kg)	1633
ELT Type	
ELT Fitted	Unknown
ELT Activated	

Airspace

Controlling agency	Aust Civil
ATS service type	Surveillance
ATS position	Approach
Airspace class	C
Airspace type	CTA

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Operation

Registration	VH-KOJ
Operator	OXFORD AVIATION ACADEMY (AUSTRALIA) PTY LTD
Flight number	N/A
Related runway	17
Phase of flight	Manoeuvring/airwork
PIC status	Section 47E(d)
Pilot flying role	
Departure aerodrome	Moorabbin Aerodrome [YMMB]
Destination aerodrome	Moorabbin Aerodrome [YMMB]
Actual landing	
Aerodrome proximity	Off aerodrome > 10 km
Operation type	Part 91 General operating and flight rules
Operation subtype	Part 141 - training
Activity group	General aviation / Recreational
Activity type	Instructional flying
Activity subtype	Instructional flying - dual
Flight rules	VFR
Flight conditions	VMC
Altitude type	AMSL (above mean sea level - ft)
Altitude	Exactly
Exact altitude	2100
Other information	

Registration	VH-XC5
Operator	Section 47E(d)
Flight number	N/A
Related runway	17
Phase of flight	Manoeuvring/airwork
PIC status	Section 47E(d)
Pilot flying role	

Departure aerodrome	Essendon Aerodrome [YMEN]
Destination aerodrome	Essendon Aerodrome [YMEN]
Actual landing	
Aerodrome proximity	Off aerodrome > 10 km
Operation type	Part 91 General operating and flight rules
Operation subtype	Other
Activity group	General aviation / Recreational
Activity type	Sport and pleasure flying
Activity subtype	Pleasure and personal transport
Flight rules	VFR
Flight conditions	VMC
Altitude type	AMSL (above mean sea level - ft)
Altitude	Exactly
Exact altitude	2100
Other information	Exact Alt obtained from FR.

Occurrence category

Registration	VH-KOJ
Level 1	Airspace
Level 2	Aircraft separation
Level 3	Near collision

Registration	VH-XC5
Level 1	Airspace Operational
Level 2	Aircraft separation Flight preparation / Navigation
Level 3	Near collision Flight below minimum altitude

Damage level and injuries

Registration	VH-KOJ			
Injury level	Fatal	Serious	Minor	Total Section 47E(d)
Crew	0	0	0	
Passengers	0	0	0	
Aircraft damage level	Nil			
Post impact fire				
Damage description				

Registration	VH-XC5			
Injury level	Fatal	Serious	Minor	Total Section 47E(d)
Crew	0	0	0	
Passengers	0	0	0	
Aircraft damage level	Nil			
Post impact fire				
Damage description				

Weather and environment

Cloud cover	Section 47E(d)		
Visibility (km)			
Light conditions			
Wind direction			
Average wind speed (kts)			
Cloud base (ft)			
Visibility reduced by			
Turbulence conditions			
Icing conditions			
Precipitation type			
Precipitation intensity			
QNH			
Outside temperature			
Light and variable (windspeed)			
Maximum wind speed (gust)			
Dew point			
CAVOK			
Effective cloud ceiling			
Weather phenomena			

Safety factor

Level 1	
Level 2	
Level 3	