

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198502576**

Grob Astir

28 December 1985

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Investigations commenced on or before 30 June 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the CEO of the Bureau in accordance with Part 2A of the Air Navigation Act 1920.

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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: 198502576 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

Location: 30 km North Parkes NSW

Date: 28 December 1985

Time: 1930

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	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: Grob Astir

Registration: VH-WQL

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Private (Gliding)

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Forbes NSW

Departure Time: 1420

Destination: Forbes NSW

Approved for Release: April 10th 1986

Circumstances:

The purpose of the flight was to achieve the cross-country distance requirements for the upgrading of the pilot's qualifications. He had been airborne for over 6 hours when further lift could not be found and an outlanding became necessary. While manoeuvring towards the selected area, the pilot misjudged the strength of the wind and was forced to turn onto final approach at a low height above the ground. During the turn the right wingtip struck a tree and the aircraft rotated about 110 degrees to the right before striking the ground. It was considered likely that the pilot's performance was affected by fatigue resulting from the length of the flight and his exposure to direct sunlight for a period of more than 10 hours. This accident was not the subject of an on-scene investigation.