

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198602372**

**Thruster Gemini**

**30 December 1986**

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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](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

**Occurrence Number:** 198602372  
**Location:** Jerseyville NSW  
**Date:** 30 December 1986  
**Highest Injury Level:** Nil  
**Injuries:**

**Occurrence Type:** Accident

**Time:** 1400

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**Aircraft Details:** Thruster Gemini  
**Registration:** Not Registered  
**Serial Number:**  
**Operation Type:** Miscellaneous (Sport Aviation)  
**Damage Level:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Jerseyville NSW  
**Departure Time:** N/A  
**Destination:** Jerseyville NSW

**Approved for Release:** June 2nd 1987

**Circumstances:**

The pilot, who is an approved AUF instructor, was conducting a solo test flight, following complaints by a student that directional control was more difficult than normal. During the takeoff run a rudder lever arm collapsed, directional control was lost, and the aircraft collided with a fence. It was likely that the directional control problems originally reported were related to the rudder lever arm being bent. The reason for the bending was not established, but the lever had evidently been weakened to the point where it failed during the attempted takeoff.