

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198803445**

Piper Aircraft Corp PA-31

24 March 1988

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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: 198803445
Location: Brisbane QLD
Date: 24 March 1988
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1658

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

Aircraft Details: Piper Aircraft Corp PA-31
Registration: VH-OCG
Serial Number: 31-8152163
Operation Type: Supplementary Airline
Service
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Thangool QLD
Departure Time: 1530
Destination: Brisbane QLD

Approved for Release: November 9th 1988

Circumstances:

After landing, the pilot taxied the aircraft into the vicinity of the parking bay. Nearing the area he mistook a vehicular traffic boundary line (red single line) for a taxiway guidance line (yellow single line). The aircraft collided with the steel weld-mesh boundary fence and the left wingtip was severed by a steel post. Light conditions were poor between rain showers and, with the ground wet, the pilot could not make out the colour of the line he was following. It was his first flight into the newly commissioned airport.

Significant Factors:

It was considered that the following factors were relevant to the development of the accident

1. The parking bays were not yet numbered (new airport), and although the pilot had been issued with a map of the parking area no specific parking instructions had been issued by his company.
2. It was the pilot's first arrival at the new airport.
3. Light conditions were poor - dusk, overcast and the ground was wet.
4. Reflections from wet ground hid the colour of the marking lines.
5. The pilot mistook a line delineating a perimeter road as a lead-in line to the allotted parking bay.
6. The pilot saw the perimeter fence too late to avoid the wingtip colliding with it.

7. No marshaller met the aircraft.