

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198404502**

**Schneider KA6
Blanik L13 c
Chipmunk DHC1**

26 August 1984

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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: 198404502
Location: Cunderdin WA
Date: 26 August 1984
Highest Injury Level: Fatal
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident
Time: a)1301 b&c)1330

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

Aircraft Details:	Schneider KA6	Blanik L13 c	Chipmunk DHC1
Registration:	VH-GQK	VH-WUT	VH-RJK
Serial Number:			
Operation Type:	Pleasure Gliding	Pleasure Gliding	
Damage Level:	Destroyed	Substantial	Nil
Departure Point:	Cunderdin WA	Cunderdin WA	
Departure Time:	1301	1330	1330
Destination:	Cunderdin WA		

Approved for Release: 20th September, 1985

Circumstances:

While being towed to the planned launch height, the glider under tow and another glider in the circuit area, collided. The collision caused the tow rope to break and the pilot of the glider, although injured, was able to land his aircraft. The tailplane of the other glider separated in the collision and the aircraft descended uncontrolled into the ground. The tug aircraft was undamaged and landed safely. The glider rejoining the circuit approached the tug and glider under tow from the right rear quarter. Immediately prior to the collision, witnesses reported that the glider attempted avoiding action. The reason the pilot did not see the two other aircraft until it was too late to successfully take avoiding action, could not be determined. However, the combination of a broken cloud cover and a mottled background would have made the pilot's task more difficult.