

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198100082**

Thruster Ultralight TST

25 April 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: 198100082

Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: 4 km W Charters Towers QLD

Date: 25 April 1988

Time: 1630

Highest Injury Level: Serious

Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Thruster Ultralight TST

Registration: Not Registered

Serial Number: AUF 250167

Operation Type: Aerial Work (Solo Training)

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: 4 km W Charters Towers
QLD

Departure Time: N/A

Destination: 4 km W Charters Towers
QLD

Approved for Release: 17/08/1988

Circumstances:

During circuit training, the aircraft suffered a complete engine failure. The pilot was unable to reach the flight strip and landed the aircraft amongst trees. One of the two pistons of the two stroke engine had seized in the cylinder, probably due to lack of lubrication.

Significant Factors:

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

1. Engine failed in flight (piston seized).
2. Piston seized (probably) through lack of lubrication.
3. Aircraft may have been refuelled from a drum containing raw fuel (no lubricating two-stroke oil mixed in with it).
4. Forced landing on unsuitable terrain.