

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198702384**

Schempp-Hirth Nimbus 2

16 February 1987

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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: 198702384 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Cooinbil (32 km West Coleambally) NSW
Date: 16 February 1987 **Time:** 1205 approx
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: Schempp-Hirth Nimbus 2
Registration: VH-WVY
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Private (Gliding)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Tocumwal NSW
Departure Time: 1205 approx
Destination: Tocumwal NSW

Approved for Release: April 29th 1987

Circumstances:

While conducting a cross-country flight, the pilot encountered deteriorating lift conditions, and an outlanding became necessary. The pilot reported that while he was on short final approach to the selected paddock he encountered strong lift, which caused him to overshoot the target touchdown point. During manoeuvring for another approach, the glider stalled and struck the ground in a very steep nosedown attitude. When it was apparent that the aircraft would overshoot the target touchdown point, the pilot had carried out a steep turn to re-position for final approach. During this manoeuvre the spoilers, flaps and landing gear had been left extended. The pilot had evidently not monitored the airspeed and the glider had stalled and probably entered an incipient spin. There had been no requirement for the steep turn to be undertaken, as a landing straight ahead was available.