

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198701454**

**Transfield PL-12/T-300**

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

**Occurrence Number:** 198701454                      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** 2 km East of Devonport Airport TAS  
**Date:** 4 December 1987                      **Time:** 550  
**Highest Injury Level:** Nil  
**Injuries:**

	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:** Transfield PL-12/T-300  
**Registration:** VH-AUL  
**Serial Number:** H0106  
**Operation Type:** Aerial Work (Agricultural Spraying)  
**Damage Level:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Devonport TAS  
**Departure Time:** 0535  
**Destination:** Devonport TAS

**Approved for Release:** March 14th 1988

**Circumstances:**

Prior to DEPARTURE the pilot ascertained that there was about 23 litres of fuel in the left tank and 91 in the right tank. Take off was with the left tank selected and spray operations commenced. Two paddocks were sprayed and half way along a clean up run to finish off the areas the engine failed due to use of all the fuel from the left tank. The pilot switched to the right tank with the boost on and turned left towards a clear area. The engine did not respond and after about 160 degrees of turn the left wing struck the ground and the aircraft slid to a stop. Had the pilot stopped the turn and levelled the wings earlier the aircraft would have struck trees.