

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199001171**

Aerospatiale SA365C-1

2 December 1990

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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: 199001171

Location: 7 km SSE of Seville VIC

Date: 2 December 1990

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1400

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	2	2
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	1
Total	0	0	0	3

Aircraft Details: Aerospatiale SA365C-1

Registration: VH-PVK

Serial Number: 5033

Operation Type: Aerial Work

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Essendon VIC

Departure Time: 1155

Destination: Dandenong VIC

Approved for Release: 13th February 1991

Circumstances:

The crew reconnoitred the proposed landing site from about 300 feet above the ground and sighted four powerlines. The pilot entered a hover at about 200 feet and then descended slowly. The aircraft maintained a very low forward speed and movement to the right to assist visibility, in case there were other wires yet unsighted. At 130 feet above the ground the pilot suddenly saw a single wire which was already between the cabin roof and the underside of the main rotor blades. He attempted to avoid the wire but it was struck by the main rotors. One blade severed the wire which then slashed the top of the tail fin. The pilot carried out a controlled power-on landing. The single wire powerline was old, its metal had dulled and was unlikely to glint in sunlight. The span between poles was 404 metres. The wire was very difficult to see. This accident was not the subject of an on-scene investigation.