

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198702456**

**Sadler Vampire SV2**

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

**Occurrence Number:** 198702456  
**Location:** Wilton NSW  
**Date:** 17 February 1987  
**Highest Injury Level:** Serious  
**Injuries:**

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	1	0	0
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Aircraft Details:** Sadler Vampire SV2  
**Registration:** Not Registered  
**Serial Number:**  
**Operation Type:** Miscellaneous (Sport Aviation)  
**Damage Level:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Wilton NSW  
**Departure Time:** 1320  
**Destination:** Wilton NSW

**Approved for Release:** November 17th 1987

**Circumstances:**

The pilot was completing a 50 hour test flying program on the aircraft. Two previous sorties had been flown during the day, without incident. On this occasion, the pilot was conducting a glide approach, but when power was re-applied to go around, the engine delivered some 400 rpm less than normal. The pilot attempted to conduct a low level circuit, however the engine power continued to decay on the downwind leg. The turn onto base leg was conducted at about 100 feet, and shortly afterwards all power was lost. The aircraft landed heavily in a paddock. A post accident test run and inspection of the engine found that the power loss was caused by a spark plug failure. This accident was not the subject of an on-site investigation.