

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report**  
**199102579**

**Calair Skyfox**

**30 January 1991**

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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:** 199102579                      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** Nellybri Station 30km ENE of Surat QLD  
**Date:** 30 January 1991                      **Time:** 1755  
**Highest Injury Level:** Fatal  
**Injuries:**

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

**Aircraft Details:** Calair Skyfox  
**Registration:** 55-604  
**Serial Number:** CA21-008  
**Operation Type:** Private  
**Damage Level:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** ALA 35km ENE of Surat  
QLD  
**Departure Time:** N/K  
**Destination:** ALA 35km ENE of Surat  
QLD

**Approved for Release:** 4th April 1991

#### **Circumstances:**

The pilot flew alongside a vehicle travelling along a gravel road. The two occupants of the vehicle knew the pilot well and they were not surprised to see the aircraft. The aircraft was then flown across the road in front of the vehicle at an approximate height of 250 feet. Whilst continuing their progress along the road, the occupants observed the aircraft perform a "wing over" manoeuvre. The aircraft failed to recover from the resultant steep dive, striking the ground at approximately 65 degrees nose down. The two occupants of the vehicle extracted the pilot from the crushed cabin. Detailed examination of the wreckage failed to reveal any abnormalities.

#### **Significant Factors:**

The following factors were considered relevant to the development of the accident

1. The pilot performed an aerobatic manoeuvre at a low height.
2. In all probability, the pilot inadvertently flew the aircraft into a high speed aerodynamic stall from which he was unable to recover in the height available.