

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198803515**

Thruster TST

25 April 1988

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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: 198803515 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 4 km W of Charters Towers, QLD
Date: 25 April 1988 **Time:** 1630
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Thruster TST
Registration: AUF 250167
Serial Number: N/K
Operation Type: Private (Solo training)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: 4 km W of Charters Towers
QLD
Departure Time: N/K
Destination: 4 km W of Charters Towers
QLD

Approved for Release: October 27th 1988

Circumstances:

During circuit training, the aircraft suffered a complete engine failure. The pilot was unable to reach the flight strip and landed the aircraft amongst trees. One of the two pistons of the two stroke engine had seized in the cylinder, probably due to lack of lubrication.

Significant Factors:

It was considered that the following factors were relevant to the development of the accident:

1. Engine failed in flight, due to a piston which seized probably through lack of lubrication.
2. Aircraft may have been refuelled from a drum containing raw fuel (no lubricating two-stroke oil mixed in with it).
3. Forced landing on unsuitable terrain