

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198501385**

Pitts S1-E

27 January 1985

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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: 198501385
Location: Lake Eppalock VIC
Date: 27 January 1985
Highest Injury Level: Minor
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1309

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

Aircraft Details: Pitts S1-E
Registration: VH-DDS
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Aerobatics display
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Moorabbin VIC
Departure Time: 1309
Destination: Moorabbin VIC

Approved for Release: 16th May, 1985

Circumstances:

A low level aerobatic display was being conducted over the lake. Towards the end of the display the pilot performed four snap rolls followed by a steep climb and stall turn. Although the display was to be conducted not below 500 feet agl the aircraft was recovered from the last snap roll at an estimated 150 feet agl. Despite this low recovery height the pilot persisted with the climb and stall turn manoeuvre. While attempting to recover from the subsequent dive he stalled the aircraft at too low a height to avoid impacting the water.