

Aviation Safety Investigation Report 199001973

Blanik L13

25 February 1990

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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: 199001973
Location: Tooraweenah NSW
Date: 25 February 1990
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1500

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

Aircraft Details: Blanik L13
Registration: VH-GOL
Serial Number: 26051
Operation Type: Aerial work
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Tooraweenah NSW
Departure Time: N/K
Destination: Tooraweenah NSW

Approved for Release: 1st May 1990

Circumstances:

At the completion of a trial instructional flight a normal flare and two point touchdown was accomplished. On touchdown the pilot noticed a "tug" on the airframe and the elevator control became "stiff". Inspection revealed the tailwheel forward attachment bracket had failed from fatigue. This caused the tail of the aircraft to ride over the broken tailwheel forward arm, resulting in the tailwheel folding aft into the tailcone. The rear attachment then failed in overload allowing the tailwheel to separate from the aircraft.

Significant Factors:

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

1. The tailwheel front attachment bracket failed due to fatigue cracking.
2. Aircraft inspection failed to detect the crack.