

Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198500139

Ryan ST-M

20 July 1985

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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.

Occurrence Number: 198500139
Location: Wyndham WA
Date: 20 July 1985
Highest Injury Level: Fatal
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1630

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

Aircraft Details: Ryan ST-M
Registration: VH-CXR
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Private-Air Display
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Wyndham WA
Departure Time: 1630
Destination: Wyndham WA

Approved for Release: April 1st 1986

Circumstances:

The pilot had been requested to carry out an aerobatic display over a fair being conducted at the local racecourse. During the display three spins were completed, with each being entered at about 1500 feet agl and recovery effected by 500 feet agl. The display appeared to be finished when the pilot made a low pass from behind the crowd at approximately 100 feet agl and then climbed out for what looked initially like a normal entry to the circuit at nearby Wyndham Airport. However, as the aircraft approached 1000 feet agl it was observed to carry out a spin entry similar to that used on the three previous spins. A spin to the left started and four turns were completed before recovery appeared to commence at about 200 feet agl. The aircraft struck the ground before recovery was complete, still yawing to the left and with the nose attitude about 24 degrees below that required for level flight. Whether or not the entry to the final spin was deliberate could not be determined. The pilot was not approved to carry out aerobatic manoeuvres below 3000 feet agl, however, reports indicate that he had previously conducted low level aerobatic displays.