

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198701447**

Pitts S1E

2 November 1987

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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.

This accident was not subject to an on scene investigation.

Occurrence Number: 198701447 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Whitstock Field (Grampians) VIC
Date: 2 November 1987 **Time:** 1110
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: Pitts S1E
Registration: VH-XII
Serial Number: V70
Operation Type: Private (Practice)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Whitstock Field VIC
Departure Time: 1055
Destination: Whitstock Field VIC

Approved for Release: 1/03/1988

Circumstances:

At the conclusion of an aerobatic flight, the pilot intended to practice a number of circuits and landings. Two touch-and-go landings were completed, and the pilot positioned the aircraft for a full-stop landing in 10 knot crosswind conditions. Towards the end of the landing roll, the aircraft commenced to ground loop to the left. The pilot applied corrective rudder and brake, but was unable to arrest the swing. He then applied full power, with the intention of becoming airborne and passing between trees which lined the side of the strip. The aircraft lifted off, but then collided with a tree, fell to the ground, and came to rest inverted. The particular type is known to be difficult to control directionally. It was considered possible that the pilot had relaxed his concentration after the aircraft had touched down.