

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198903855**

**Thruster**

**18 November 1989**

Readers are advised that the Australian Transport Safety Bureau investigates for the sole purpose of enhancing transport safety. Consequently, Bureau reports are confined to matters of safety significance and may be misleading if used for any other purposes.

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](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

This accident was not formally investigated by the Bureau.

**Occurrence Number:** 198903855      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** "The Basalt" 20 km N of Charters Towers QLD  
**Date:** 18 November 1989      **Time:** 1630  
**Highest Injury Level:** Minor  
**Injuries:**

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	0	0
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

**Aircraft Details:** Thruster  
**Registration:** Not registered  
**Serial Number:** 250110  
**Operation Type:** Private  
**Damage Level:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** "The Basalt" QLD  
**Departure Time:** 1620  
**Destination:** "The Basalt" QLD

**Approved for Release:** 23rd February 1990

#### **Circumstances:**

The pilot had planned to carry out a series of circuits and landings. During the downwind leg of the first circuit, the engine began to run roughly, and then lost power. The pilot attempted a forced landing on a clearing adjacent to the airstrip boundary fence. During the landing roll the pilot lost directional control due to the rough surface and the aircraft collided with the fence. Subsequent examination of the fuel filter revealed that it contained several flakes of rubber material. A larger piece of this material had blocked the filter inlet. The source of the material was traced to the partial disintegration of the inner wall of the priming bulb.