

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199100515**

Piper PA 32-300

25th February 1991

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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: 199100515
Location: Thistle Island SA
Date: 25th February 1991
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident
Time: 1427

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	4
Total	0	0	0	5

Aircraft Details: Piper PA 32-300
Registration: VH-STS
Serial Number: 32-7440171
Operation Type: Private
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Parafield SA
Departure Time: N/K
Destination: Thistle Island SA

Approved for Release: 26th February 1991

Circumstances:

The pilot reported that just prior to touchdown he experienced a huge crosswind gust that blew him to the side of the strip. He attempted to regain directional control with rudder as the aircraft was then on the ground but he could not prevent the aircraft running into a sand windrow at the edge of the strip. On striking the windrow and then bushes, the left maingear leg was torn off followed by the other gear legs. The engine was also reportedly detached from the nose of the aircraft.