

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198901564**

Piper PA28-161

22 December 1989

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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: 198901564
Location: Lilydale VIC
Date: 22 December 1989
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1430

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

Aircraft Details: Piper PA28-161
Registration: VH-BZB
Serial Number: 28-7916037
Operation Type: Aerial Work
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Lilydale VIC
Departure Time: 1430
Destination:

Approved for Release: 26th September 1990

Circumstances:

The aircraft was being used for dual circuit training. Following a normal touch down a loud bang was heard, the nose dropped and the aircraft skidded to a halt with the nosegear collapsed. The nose landing gear strut had fractured at the base of the cylinder. Microscopic examination of the fracture surfaces found a single event overload failure by bending, with no evidence of any pre existing defects. The failure mode suggests that the nosewheel was either cocked to the left or the aircraft was yawed to the left when the nosewheel contacted the runway.

Significant Factors:

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

1. The nose landing gear strut had failed at the base of the cylinder due to a single event overload.
2. The nosewheel was cocked to the left, or the aircraft yawed to the left when the nosewheel contacted the runway.