

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199900461**

**Embraer-Empresa Brasileira de  
Aeronautica  
Piper Chieftain**

**10 February 1999**

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 Executive Director of the Bureau in accordance with Part 2A of the Air Navigation Act 1920.

Investigations commenced after 1 July 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the Executive Director of the Bureau in accordance with the Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003 (TSI Act). Reports released under the TSI Act are not admissible as evidence in any civil or criminal proceedings.

**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).**

**Occurrence Number:** 199900461                      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** Coonabarabran, Aerodrome  
**State:** NSW                      **Inv Category:** 4  
**Date:** Wednesday 10 February 1999  
**Time:** 0545 hours                      **Time Zone**                      ESuT  
**Highest Injury Level:** None

**Aircraft**                      Embraer-Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica  
**Manufacturer:**  
**Aircraft Model:** EMB-820-C  
**Aircraft Registration:** VH-HVA                      **Serial**                      820C-045  
**Number:**  
**Type of Operation:** Air Transport   Domestic Low Capacity Passenger  
Positioning  
**Damage to Aircraft:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Coonabarabran NSW  
**Departure Time:** 0545 ESuT  
**Destination:** Gunnedah NSW

**Crew Details:**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Class of Licence</b>	<b>Hours on Type</b>	<b>Hours Total</b>
Pilot-In-Command	ATPL	350.0	3160

**Approved for Release:** Friday, July 9, 1999

During the takeoff run, the aircraft's nose landing gear collided with a pig that had strayed onto the runway. The nose landing gear collapsed, causing both propellers to strike the ground.

The aerodrome was surrounded by an electric fence designed to prevent the entry of animals. This had been breached once before, and the fence had been repaired. An inspection by the council aerodrome inspector did not reveal where the pig had gained entry.

The inspector now conducts daily inspections of the aerodrome area before the arrival of the regular public transport flight, and the electric fence power unit has been upgraded.

