

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199904112**

**Boeing Co
B737**

24 August 1999

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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 Executive Director 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.

Occurrence Number: 199904112 **Occurrence Type:** Incident
Location: Melbourne, Aerodrome
State: VIC **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Tuesday 24 August 1999
Time: 1900 hours **Time Zone** EST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Boeing Co
Manufacturer:
Aircraft Model: 737-376
Aircraft Registration: VH-TAV **Serial Number:** 23487
Type of Operation: Air Transport Domestic High Capacity Passenger
Scheduled
Damage to Aircraft: Nil
Departure Point: Melbourne Vic.
Departure Time:
Destination: Brisbane Qld

Approved for Release: Tuesday, September 28, 1999

Binding of the Elevator Control System

During a flight controls check prior to take-off, the aircraft experienced an apparent binding of the elevator control system at a location just forward of the aft stop. The flight was aborted and the aircraft returned to the gate for further investigation. Maintenance personnel carried out further investigation into the control system, to include a complete operational check of the elevator control system. The subsequent checks completed both powered and unpowered revealed none of the ratcheting and binding reported by the flight crew. After a thorough check the aircraft was returned to service.

