Aviation Safety Investigation Report 199800049

Cessna Aircraft Company Cessna Skyhawk

08 January 1998

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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: 199800049 Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: Dubbo, Aerodrome

State: NSW Inv Category: 4

Date: Thursday 08 January 1998

Time: 1825 hours **Time Zone** ESuT

Highest Injury Level: Minor

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None	Total
Crew	0	0	1	0	1
Ground	0	0	0	0	0
Passenger	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	1	0	1

Aircraft Manufacturer: Cessna Aircraft Company

Aircraft Model: 172M

Aircraft Registration: VH-WTG Serial Number: 17263182

Type of Operation: Instructional Solo

Damage to Aircraft:DestroyedDeparture Point:Dubbo NSWDeparture Time:1745 ESuTDestination:Dubbo NSW

Crew Details:

	Hours on				
Role	Class of Licence	Type Hour	rs Total		
Pilot-In-Command	Student	31.0	31		

Approved for Release: Monday, February 23, 1998

The aircraft was on final approach to Dubbo aerodrome when it suddenly descended, collided with power lines and cartwheeled to the ground. The aircraft was destroyed in the accident but the solo student pilot managed to escape with minor injuries.

The pilot subsequently reported that he had the aircraft configured for a short field landing with full flap and 60 kts approach speed. At about 400 ft on mid final, a sudden wind gust lifted the nose and right wing to a high attitude. The pilot applied full power and opposite aileron but the aircraft failed to recover before colliding with the power lines.

It is likely that the high nose attitude resulted in the aircraft stalling at a height which was insufficient to effect a recovery.