

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199801787**

**Airparts (NZ) Ltd  
Fletcher**

**18 May 1998**

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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](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

**Occurrence Number:** 199801787      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** 19km NE Cumnock  
**State:** NSW      **Inv Category:** 4  
**Date:** Monday 18 May 1998  
**Time:** 0925 hours      **Time Zone:** EST  
**Highest Injury Level:** None

**Aircraft Manufacturer:** Airparts (NZ) Ltd  
**Aircraft Model:** FU-24-950  
**Aircraft Registration:** VH-KSF      **Serial Number:** 249  
**Type of Operation:** Commercial      Aerial Agriculture/Baiting  
**Damage to Aircraft:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** 'Allambie' NSW  
**Departure Time:**  
**Destination:** 'Allambie' NSW

**Crew Details:**

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on	
		Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	450.0	24000

**Approved for Release:** Tuesday, July 7, 1998

When the pilot entered the cockpit of the Fletcher, he observed the loading vehicle near the chemical dump. The pilot started the engine and allowed it to warm up for approximately four minutes. Unbeknown to the pilot, during this time, the loading vehicle moved to a position on the right side of the aft fuselage of the aircraft in preparation for loading. When the pilot commenced taxiing, the tailplane collided with the loading vehicle, causing substantial damage to the aft fuselage. No person was injured.

A significant factor in this accident was the driver positioning the loading vehicle near the aircraft without the approval of the pilot.

