

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199804021**

**Cessna Aircraft Company
Skylane**

26 September 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.

Occurrence Number: 199804021 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Aratula
State: QLD **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Saturday 26 September 1998
Time: 1530 hours **Time Zone** EST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Cessna Aircraft Company
Aircraft Model: 182B
Aircraft Registration: VH-BOH **Serial Number:** 51597
Type of Operation: Miscellaneous Parachute Jump
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Aratula Qld
Departure Time: 1530 EST
Destination: Aratula Qld

Crew Details:

| Role | Class of Licence | Hours on Type | Hours Total |
|------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Pilot-In-Command | Commercial | 2100.0 | 2500 |

Approved for Release: Friday, December 11, 1998

The pilot reported that he was taxiing for departure on runway 07. As he turned the aircraft to loine up, the left main gear leg fractured. The left wingtip and the left horizontal stabiliser contacted the ground. Subsequent examination of the fracture showed a fatigue failure emanating from a small impression or dent on the leading edge of the leg. The leg appeared to have been cracked for some considerable time, and eventually failed longitudinally in a straight line.

The aircraft had been operating for some years on rough runways, and had been engaged in parachuting operations continually. This type of operation generates an unusually high number of cycles (takeoffs and landings) and would contribute to a fatigue failure of this nature.