

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199702723**

**Airparts (NZ) Ltd  
Fletcher**

**22 August 1997**

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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:** 199702723                      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** 32km E York  
**State:** WA    **Inv Category:** 4  
**Date:** Friday 22 August 1997  
**Time:** 0920 hours                              **Time Zone**                      WST  
**Highest Injury Level:** None

**Aircraft Manufacturer:** Airparts (NZ) Ltd  
**Aircraft Model:** FU-24/A4  
**Aircraft Registration:** VH-BBM                      **Serial Number:** 136  
**Type of Operation:** Miscellaneous Ferry  
**Damage to Aircraft:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Northam WA  
**Departure Time:**  
**Destination:** Hyden WA

**Crew Details:**

<u>Role</u>	<u>Class of Licence</u>	<u>Hours on Type</u>	<u>Hours Total</u>
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	5000.0	6700

**Approved for Release:** Tuesday, November 11, 1997

The pilot reported that, on a ferry flight back to Hyden from Northam, following a .37 periodic maintenance inspection, he encountered fog ahead along track. As a precautionary measure, the pilot decided to land in a paddock to wait for the fog to clear. He made several passes over the paddock to ensure it was suitable before attempting to land. As the aircraft touched down, the right main wheel struck a rock, hidden in grass, causing the right oleo to collapse from overload.

