

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199702788**

**Cessna Aircraft Company  
402C**

**15 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:** 199702788      **Occurrence Type:** Incident  
**Location:** Palm Island, (ALA)  
**State:** QLD      **Inv Category:** 4  
**Date:** Friday 15 August 1997  
**Time:** 1217 hours      **Time Zone** EST  
**Highest Injury Level:** None

**Aircraft Manufacturer:** Cessna Aircraft Company  
**Aircraft Model:** 402C  
**Aircraft Registration:** VH-UCD      **Serial Number:** 402C0049  
**Type of Operation:** Air Transport Domestic Low Capacity Passenger Scheduled  
**Damage to Aircraft:** Nil  
**Departure Point:** Townsville QLD  
**Departure Time:** 1203 EST  
**Destination:** Palm Island QLD

**Approved for Release:** Tuesday, September 2, 1997

### **Circumstances**

The pilot reported that the flaps became asymmetric when full flap was selected at about 300 ft on final for landing at Palm Island. The pilot immediately returned the flap selector to the previous position and carried out a "go around". The flight returned for an uneventful landing at Townsville. Post flight examination found the right flap extend cable had failed in the radius of a pulley. The cable was due for special inspection in approximately 20 hours flight time.

The maintenance organisation, Operator and CASA Airworthiness in Townsville were all contacted concerning this incident. The maintenance organisation is currently submitting a Major Defect Report detailing the failure. The maintenance organisation will be recommending to CASA that the affected cables be placed on a shorter special inspection period, or be replaced at short time intervals.

