

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199703922**

**Beech Aircraft Corp  
Duchess**

**24 November 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:** 199703922      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** Cooranbong, (ALA)  
**State:** NSW      **Inv Category:** 4  
**Date:** Monday 24 November 1997  
**Time:** 0830 hours      **Time Zone** ESuT  
**Highest Injury Level:** None

**Aircraft Manufacturer:** Beech Aircraft Corp  
**Aircraft Model:** 76  
**Aircraft Registration:** VH-HZE      **Serial Number:** ME-105  
**Type of Operation:** Non-commercial Pleasure/Travel  
**Damage to Aircraft:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Cooranbong NSW  
**Departure Time:** 0830 ESuT  
**Destination:** Cooranbong NSW

**Crew Details:**

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on	
		Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	207.0	423

**Approved for Release:** Friday, February 13, 1998

The pilot reported that whilst taxiing along a narrow taxiway to runway 16 at Cooranbong, he inadvertently allowed the aircraft to veer left approximately 2 m. When he became aware that the aircraft had diverged from the taxiway, he reported that he had insufficient time to manoeuvre the aircraft back onto the taxiway centreline before the aircraft's left wing clipped a fence post. The pilot brought the aircraft to a stop before shutting down the aircraft's engines.

The pilot reported that he may have had a momentary lapse in concentration whilst taxiing the aircraft and that he had not noticed the aircraft's initial divergence from the taxiway. The taxiway's gravel surface may have then impeded his ability to regain the taxiway centreline before the left wing struck the fence post.

