

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199501982**

**Piper Aircraft Corp
Cherokee Cruiser**

01 July 1995

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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.

The Bureau did not conduct an on scene investigation of this occurrence. The information presented below was obtained from information supplied to the Bureau.

Occurrence Number: 199501982 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Toowoomba, (ALA)
State: QLD **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Saturday 01 July 1995
Time: 1300 hours **Time Zone** EST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Piper Aircraft Corp
Aircraft Model: PA-28-235
Aircraft Registration: VH-BIO **Serial Number:** 28-10468
Type of Operation: Non-commercial Pleasure/Travel
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: St George QLD
Departure Time: 1145 EST
Destination: Toowoomba QLD

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Private	80.0	100

Approved for Release: Tuesday, March 12, 1996

When the pilot arrived over Toowoomba aerodrome he noted that the windsock favoured runway 29 and that the wind was strong. During late final approach he inadvertently allowed the speed to reduce too far and a bounced, heavy landing resulted. He applied full power to go around but a strong wind gust from the south (mainly crosswind) moved the aircraft sideways. The aircraft failed to achieve flying speed and struck the ground, left wing and nose low. When the aircraft came to rest, its three occupants left the cabin without assistance. They were not injured.

A very experienced local pilot had landed some 20 minutes earlier and he said that he had nearly lost control in the gusting crosswind. The hangars are known to generate strong vortices over the eastern threshold in strong south-westerly wind conditions.