

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199401026**

**Cessna Aircraft Company
402C**

21 April 1994

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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: 199401026 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Birdsville
State: QLD **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Thursday 21 April 1994
Time: 1125 hours **Time Zone** EST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Cessna Aircraft Company
Aircraft Model: 402C
Aircraft Registration: VH-COH **Serial Number:** 402C0076
Type of Operation: Non-commercial Business
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Mount Isa QLD
Departure Time: 0930 EST
Destination: Birdsville QLD

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on	
		Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	2000.0	10600

Approved for Release: Friday, September 23, 1994

The pilot reported that there was no indication of a malfunction when the landing gear was retracted, after takeoff from Mt Isa. The flight was uneventful and the landing gear indications (three green) were normal when the gear was selected down, in the circuit at Birdsville. The gear indications were rechecked and confirmed again on final.

Touchdown on the main landing gear was normal, but as the nose wheel tyre contacted the runway the nose landing gear collapsed. The aircraft then slid to a halt on the edge of the sealed runway left of the centreline.

All four persons on board were able to exit the aircraft safely.

The investigation found that the cage surrounding the rod end ball of the nose gear actuator rod had broken. This then allowed the actuator to disconnect from the drag brace assembly, which caused the nose landing gear to collapse, as the landing loads were applied.

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