

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199300058**

**Piper Aircraft Corp
Pawnee**

30 January 1993

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Investigations commenced on or before 30 June 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the Executive Director of the Bureau in accordance with Part 2A of the Air Navigation Act 1920.

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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: 199300058 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Gawler
State: SA **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Saturday 30 January 1993
Time: 1145 hours **Time Zone** CSuT
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Piper Aircraft Corp
Aircraft Model: PA-25-235/A1
Aircraft Registration: VH-PIT **Serial Number:** 25-2543
Type of Operation: Miscellaneous Glider Towing
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Gawler SA
Departure Time:
Destination: Gawler SA

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on	
		Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Private	62.0	228

Approved for Release: Wednesday, March 9, 1994

The aircraft was being employed as a tug to launch gliders. On this occasion, the tug, with the glider in tow, commenced takeoff with a crosswind from the right of about 10-15 knots.

Before the tug reached flying speed it began to veer left. The pilot was unable to correct the swing and the glider, which was now airborne, released the tow. The tug groundlooped to the left, dislodging the right main landing gear and damaging the right wing and nose cowl. The glider landed on the runway without further incident.