

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199300426**

**Auster Aircraft Ltd
IV**

24 February 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: 199300426 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Mackay
State: QLD **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Wednesday 24 February 1993
Time: 1745 hours **Time Zone** EST
Highest Injury Level: Minor
Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None	Total
Crew	0	0	1	0	1
Ground	0	0	0	0	0
Passenger	0	0	1	0	1
Total	0	0	2	0	2

Aircraft Manufacturer: Auster Aircraft Ltd
Aircraft Model: IV
Aircraft Registration: VH-HPM **Serial Number:** TAY36611
Type of Operation: Miscellaneous Test
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Mackay QLD
Departure Time:
Destination: Mackay QLD

Approved for Release: Monday, June 21, 1993

The aircraft was being flown to calibrate the stall warning device. The pilot closed the throttle and as the airspeed reduced to about 70 knots the propeller stopped. Attempts at restarting the engine were unsuccessful. The pilot elected to land on the beach where the aircraft struck soft sand. The right main gear collapsed and during the subsequent swing to the right the aircraft struck bushes at the edge of the beach.

External examination of the engine revealed that rotation of the crankshaft was rather stiff, however this could have been the result of striking the beach sand during the landing. The engine was not stripped as the owner indicated that he would not return it to service.

This accident was not subject to an on site investigation.