



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

AIC Head Office,
Level 1, NAQIA Haus, Portion 81, Morea Toba Rd, 6 Mile
PO Box 1709, Boroko 111

National Capital District
Papua New Guinea

<mailto:ceo@aic.gov.pg>

Telephone : (675) 323 2911
Facsimile : (675) 323 2139
Email : hnamani@aic.gov.pg

Safety recommendation: AIC 22-R03/22-1002

Addressed to: Sandaun Provincial Government

Date issued: 25 February 2022

Investigation link: AIC 22-1002

Action status: Issued

Introduction

On 26 January 2022 at 10:13 local (00:13 UTC), the Operator, Niugini Aviation Services Limited (NASL) notified the PNG AIC via phone call of an accident which had occurred earlier that day, involving a PAC 750XL aircraft registered P2-BVC, owned and operated by NASL. The AIC immediately commenced an investigation in accordance with Civil Aviation Act 2000 (*as Amended*) and ICAO Annex 13 standards and dispatched a team of investigators to perform on-site activities.

Occurrence

On 26 January 2022, a PAC 750XL aircraft, registered P2-BWC, owned and operated by NASL, was conducting a VFR charter flight from Kiunga Airport, Western Province, to Tekin Airstrip, Sandaun Province. The aircraft sustained a left main landing gear assembly collapse during landing roll, and subsequent runway excursion at Tekin Airstrip. There were six occupants: one pilot and five passengers. There were no injuries reported.

Safety deficiency description

P2-BWC was found to have had a left main landing gear assembly failure (collapse) at Tekin Airstrip runway 18 during landing 8 days after another left main landing gear assembly failure (collapse) accident occurred at Tekin Airstrip, involving P2-BWE, another Niugini Aviation Services Limited PAC 750XL aircraft.

Both accidents occurring within a short period of time at the same airstrip and both sustaining landing gear failure in a similar manner has caused increased concerns over the safety of fixed wing operations into Tekin.

The AIC believes that it is imperative that a re-evaluation of the Tekin Airstrip is conducted to assess, improve, where possible, and update hazard data for Tekin operation related risk mitigation.

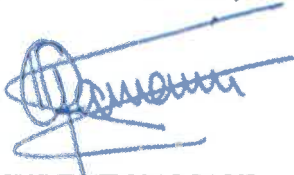
Recommendation number AIC 22-R03/22-1002 to Sandaun Provincial Government.

The AIC recommends that the Sandaun Provincial Government:

- a) engage an appropriate party, such as the Rural Airstrips Agency (RAA), to take appropriate actions to ensure Tekin Airstrip meets the acceptable safety levels for fixed wing operations.
- b) cause the dissemination of results and data to CASA PNG and Operators for risk assessment and mitigation.

Action requested

The AIC requests that Sandaun Provincial Government note recommendation AIC 22-R03/22-1002 and provide a response to the AIC within 90 days, but no later than 26 May 2022, and explain including with evidence how Sandaun Provincial Government has addressed the safety deficiency identified in the Safety Recommendation AIC 22-R03/22-1002.



HUBERT NAMANI
Chief Commissioner

25 February 2022

STATUS WITHDRAWN
REFER TO RECOMMENDATION AIC 22-R03/22-1002

PNG Accident Investigation Commission update

The AIC reassessed Safety Recommendation *AIC 22-R03/22-1002* and notes that it is a duplicate to Safety Recommendation *AIC 22-R09/22-1002*, which addresses the same safety deficiency.

The AIC, therefore, reassigns the **Safety Recommendation *AIC 22-R03/22-1002*** as *Withdrawn* rating. **Refer to Safety Recommendation *AIC 22-R09/22-1002*.**

The AIC recorded the **Status of the Recommendation: CLOSED.**



Capt. Aria Bouraga, MBE
Acting Chief Commissioner

28 April 2023

STATUS WITHDRAWN
REFER to RECOMMENDATION AIC 22-R09/22-1002