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Safety recommendation: AIC 24-R10/24-1001

Addressed to: North Coast Aviation Limited

Date issued: 3 October 2024

Investigation link: AIC 24-1001

Action status: Issued

Introduction

On 9 January 2024 at 08:30 local time (22:30 UTC), the AIC was notified by the Operator via email of an accident at Bungawat Airstrip, Morobe Province, that occurred on 8 January 2024 at 09:26 local, involving its PAC 750 XL aircraft, registered P2-NCA, owned and operated by North Coast Aviation. The AIC immediately commenced an investigation and deployed a team of investigators to perform on-site activities on 13 January 2024.

Occurrence

On 8 January 2024, at 09:26 local (23:26 UTC), a PAC P-750 XL aircraft registered P2-NCA, owned and operated by North Coast Aviation (NCA) was conducting a VFR unscheduled passenger flight from Nadzab Tomodachi International Airport to Bungawat Airstrip, Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea, when during landing, the aircraft experienced a loss of directional control on touchdown and subsequent runway excursion.

There were 13 persons on board: 2 pilots and 11 passengers including a child. None of the aircraft's occupants were injured.

Safety Deficiency Description

The operator's *Operations Manual (OM)*, Section 4.14.1 (b) states:

Where an NCA aeroplane uses an aerodrome not promulgated in the PNGAIP, maintain an airstrip guide containing—the aerodrome data and procedures for ensuring that the condition of the aerodrome is safe for that operation; and procedures for ensuring that the condition of any required equipment, including safety equipment, is safe for that operation; and any limitations on the use of the aerodrome.

According to PNG CAR 135.77 Use of aerodromes.

(c) The certificate holder shall, where its aeroplanes use an aerodrome not promulgated in the PNGAIP, maintain a register containing—

- (1) the aerodrome data; and
- (2) procedures for ensuring that the condition of the aerodrome is safe for that operation; and
- (3) procedures for ensuring that the condition of any required equipment, including safety equipment, is safe for that operation; and
- (4) any limitations on the use of the aerodrome

A review of the operator's Route and Aerodrome Guide showed that it did not comply with CAR Part 135.77(C)(2) (3) and (4) for all aerodromes used, which includes Bungawat Airstrip.

Recommendation number AIC 24-R10/24-1001 to North Coast Aviation Limited

The PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC) recommends that North Coast Aviation Limited should update the Route and Aerodrome Guide to include the following for all aerodromes used, which includes Bungawat Airstrip, to comply with *CAR Part 135.77 (c) (2) (3) and (4)*;

- a) procedures for ensuring that the condition of the aerodrome is safe for that operation;
- b) procedures for ensuring that the condition of any required equipment, including safety equipment is safe for that operation; and
- c) any limitations on the use of the aerodrome.

Action requested.

The AIC requests that North Coast Aviation Limited (NCA) note recommendation AIC 24-R10/24-1001 and provide a response to the AIC within 90 days of the issue date, but no later than 31 December 2024 and explain (including with evidence) how NCA has addressed the safety deficiency identified in the safety recommendation.



Maryanne J. Wal

Chief Commissioner

3 October 2024

North Coast Aviation Limited Response to Safety Recommendation AIC 24-R10/24-1001

The AIC did not receive a response from North Coast Aviation Limited (NCA) within the 90-day period provided in accordance with *ICAO Annex 13 para 6.10*.

The AIC made a courtesy follow up on the recommendation on 13 March 2025. In response to the follow up sent on 13 March 2025, NCA acknowledged email on 1 April 2025 and advised that they will advise of the outcome.

The AIC made another courtesy follow-up on 13 May 2025 and 26 May 2025, respectively. However, no response on preventive actions taken has been received from NCA Limited.

PNG Accident Investigation Commission assessment of NCA response

The AIC will reassess the status of *Safety Recommendation AIC 24-R10/24-1001* upon receipt of NCA Limited preventive actions to the Safety Recommendation.

The AIC assigns NCA Limited response an *Unable to Assess* rating.

The AIC has recorded the Status of the Recommendation: **MONITOR**



Maryanne J. Wal

Chief Commissioner

28 May 2025

PNG Accident Investigation Commission Assessment of Recommendation Implementation Status

The AIC has reviewed the status of Safety Recommendation AIC 24-R10/24-1001 and notes that despite the recommendation being issued on 3 October 2024 and subsequent follow-up correspondence, no evidence of corrective or preventative action has been received from North Coast Aviation Limited to demonstrate that the identified safety issues have been, or will be, adequately addressed.

Accordingly, the AIC has determined that it is unable to meaningfully assess implementation progress and will cease active monitoring of this recommendation.

The recommendation has therefore been reclassified from MONITOR status to DORMANT, closed status with an assessment rating of Satisfactory in Part.

The identified safety deficiency remains and has been referred to CASA PNG for consideration of any action it deems appropriate in the interest of aviation safety and accident prevention.



Maryanne J. Wal

Chief Commissioner

19 June 2026