



13/2026
29 June 2026

MEDIA RELEASE

RELEASE OF FINAL REPORT INTO ADVENTIST AVIATION SERVICES PNG PAC-750 XSTOL AIRCRAFT SERIOUS INCIDENT AT KANABEA AIRSTRIP, GULF PROVINCE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC) today published the Final Report into the investigation of a serious incident involving a PAC-750 XSTOL aircraft at Kanabea Airstrip, Gulf Province, Papua New Guinea.

On 9 January 2026, at 08:45 local time (22:45 UTC), a PAC-750 XSTOL aircraft, registered P2-SDA, owned by PNG Union Mission and operated by Adventist Aviation Services (PNG), was conducting a VFR charter flight from Kerema Airport to Kanabea Airstrip, Gulf Province. During the landing roll on Runway 02 at Kanabea Airstrip, the aircraft continued beyond the normal stopping area, yawed left, and the right main landing gear impacted an embankment, causing the aircraft to swing to the right and come to an abrupt stop.

There were eight persons on board the aircraft. There were no injuries, and the occurrence was survivable.

The investigation found that a shallow, virtually flat approach, a long touchdown, and standing water on the runway following recent rain reduced braking effectiveness through hydroplaning, resulting in the aircraft drifting to the right during the landing roll. The investigation also found that, despite the likelihood of a wet and slippery runway, the pilot continued the approach and landing rather than diverting.

The investigation further identified that Kanabea Airstrip did not have the windsock depicted in the operator's Route and Strip Register, reducing the availability of visual wind information for flight crew.

As a safety action, Adventist Aviation Services amended its Route and Strip Register to remove the depiction of a windsock at Kanabea Airstrip and distributed the revised information to all company pilots.

In accordance with ICAO Annex 13 Standards and Recommended Practices, the purpose of the investigation was not to apportion blame or liability, but to identify safety issues and promote the prevention of future accidents and incidents.

The Final Report of the investigation is available on AIC's website www.aic.gov.pg

Authorised for release by:

Maryanne J. Wal

Chief Commissioner