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Our Ref: AIC 25-R05/24-1002

Safety recommendation: AIC 25-R05/24-1002

Addressed to: Kobio Aviation Limited

Date issued: 28 April 2025

Investigation link: AIC 24-1002

Action status: Issued

Introduction

On 19 October 2024 at 16:05 local time (06:05 UTC), the AIC was notified by NiuSky Pacific about an occurrence that had occurred on the same day at 15:00 local time (05:00 UTC). The occurrence involved a De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Ltd DHC-6-300 Twin Otter aircraft registered P2-KAL, owned by ASHE Aircraft Enterprises Limited, and operated by Kobio Aviation Limited.

The AIC immediately began gathering information pertinent to the occurrence and commenced an investigation into the occurrence.

Occurrence

On 19 October 2024, at 15:00 local time (05:00 UTC), a De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Ltd DHC-6-300 Twin Otter aircraft registered P2-KAL, owned by ASHE Aircraft Enterprises Limited, and operated by Kobio Aviation Limited, was conducting a VFR charter flight from Kairik Airport, Enga Province to Mt. Hagen Airport, Western Highlands Province, Papua New Guinea, when, during the takeoff roll, it experienced a runway excursion and rolled into a drainage ditch which runs along the left side of the runway and impacted the embankment.

Safety deficiency description

Development of New Route

The operator's Route Guide Manual, Section 2.5 "*Development of New Routes*," states:

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will advise the Flight Operations Manager (FOM) of any proposed new route in order to evaluate operational feasibility.

Considerations will include (but are not limited to):

1. *Preferred routing*
2. *Payload*

3. *aircraft performance analysis*
4. *airport physical characteristics*
5. *operational document coverage; and*
6. *any required airport approvals.*

If a new route is approved, the Flight Operations Manager is responsible for updating the Route Manual to include the route and relevant aerodrome information. However, the investigation found no record of an operational feasibility assessment for Kairik Operations.

Recommendation number AIC 25-R05/24-1002 to Kobio Aviation Limited

The PNG Accident Investigation Commission recommends that Kobio Aviation Limited,

- a) *conduct operational feasibility assessments on Kairik operations to ensure the flight crews are adequately prepared*
- b) *if a new operation is approved, a feasibility assessment to be conducted to ensure the flight crews are adequately prepared.*

Action requested

The AIC requests that Kobio Aviation Limited note recommendation AIC 25-R05/24-1002 and provide a response to the AIC within 90 days of the issue date, but no later than 28 July 2025, and explain (including with evidence) how Kobio has addressed the safety deficiency identified in the safety recommendation.

STATUS: ISSUED.



Maryanne J. Wal

Chief Commissioner

28 April 2025