

MEDIA STATEMENT

11 July 2018

## STATEMENT ON WONDERBOOM AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

The South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) has assigned a team of investigators to probe the cause or causes of an aircraft accident that occurred yesterday, i.e. Wednesday, 10 July 2018, at around 16:30 (South African local time).

The accident happened north of Pretoria soon after take-off.

The investigation is still at an early stage and therefore some details are yet to be verified. Notwithstanding, the following can be confirmed:

### Type of aircraft

- Convair 340, manufactured by General Dynamics

### State of registration

- South Africa

### Name of owner(s)

- Rovos Rail Tours (Pty) Ltd

### Point of departure and landing

- Wonderboom Airport (FAWB), Gauteng Province
- The point of intended landing was recorded as Pilanesberg.

### Number of people on board

- Nineteen (19), which consisted of 16 passengers and three flight crew members (two pilots and a flight engineer).

### Nationalities of the people on board

- Three (3) from the Netherlands, 14 South Africans, two (2) Australians.

### Fatalities and injuries

- There were a number of serious injuries with one fatal injury confirmed on the accident scene. In addition, three people who were on the ground were injured; one of them passed away this morning.

## **Status of Airworthiness Certificate**

- The aircraft had a Certificate of Airworthiness, which was due to expire on 15 August 2018.

An appeal is also hereby made to all stakeholders concerned, to give the investigating team the space and time to thoroughly investigate the cause of the accident.

Furthermore, the SACAA wishes to point out that investigations can vary in complexity and may at times take a significant time to complete. However, a preliminary report will be issued within 30 days of the accident; and in instances where an investigation takes longer than 12 months, the investigation team would then issue an interim statement to indicate the progress made at that particular point in time. The completion of an investigation is marked by the release of a final accident report, which would also contain safety recommendations aimed at improving the levels of aviation safety and prevention of a similar accident.

**-ENDS-**

### **About the SACAA:**

*The South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) is a Schedule 3A public entity reporting to the Department of Transport established in terms of the Civil Aviation Authority Act, 2009 (Act No 13 of 2009) (the Act). In terms of mandate, the SACAA is tasked with promoting and maintaining a safe, secure and sustainable civil aviation environment, by regulating and overseeing the functioning and development of the industry in an efficient, cost-effective, and customer-friendly manner according to international standards. The SACAA is governed and controlled by the Civil Aviation Authority Board.*

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