

BELIZE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION

Aircraft Accident Investigation Unit (AAIU)



INTERIM STATEMENT

Date:	3 rd August 2024
Time:	05:08 pm local time. 2308 UTC
Location of the occurrence:	50 nm South of IOS (Puerto Barrios)
Latitude/longitude:	N 17° 11' 00" W 088° 53' 00"
Aircraft (Make/Model):	Beechcraft 1900 D UE-334
Registration:	V3-BZE
Operator:	TROPIC AIR
Category of the occurrence:	Serious Incident
Involved States:	Belize, USA

1. History of the flight

On 3 August, 2023, at 5:08 pm local time (2308 UTC), V3-BZE, Beechcraft 1900, owned by Tropic Air with a flight crew of two and nine passengers on board were on TOS #5501 from Saint Oscar Arnulfo Romero Galdamez International Airport, El Salvador to the Philip SW Goldson International Airport, Belize. The Beechcraft 1900 was at 21,100 feet AGL when the wind shield on the captain's side cracked in flight, 70 nm North of El Salvador. The flight crew don oxygen masks and immediately requested lower altitude from Cenamer Control Center while following the Checklist procedures for the type of occurrence. They were handed over to San Pedro Sula Control at 11,000 feet AGL and then Belize Radar for lower, where a safe landing was made in Belize. There were no injuries.

2. Investigation activities conducted

Interviews were conducted with both pilots of the aircraft.
Interview was conducted with Aircraft Engineer.
Conducted search regarding manufacturer of the windshield.
Conducted research of bird migration in the area.

3. Conclusion

The AAIU revealed that there were several deficiencies prior to the serious incident that could have caused the windshield to shattered or cracked in flight.

4. Recommendations already issued.

In draft final report

5. Next steps

- a) Review and approval of draft final report
- b) Send approval draft final report to relevant States
- c) Approval and completion of final report

6. Additional comments

None