PAPUA NEW GUINEA AIR ACCIDENT REPORTED

At about 0935 Papua New Guinea local time on 26th September 2010, a Cessna Company T210L aircraft, registered VH-LMT, was being operated on a private, visual flight rules, flight from Tufi to Gurney, Papua New Guinea with the pilot and four passengers on board. When the aircraft was about 46 km north-east of Gurney, the engine lost power and the pilot conducted a ditching into shallow water adjacent to a beach. The aircraft was reported to have sustained minor damage and none of the occupants were injured.

The Papua New Guinea Accident Investigation Commission delegated the conduct of the investigation to the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) in accordance with International Civil Aviation Organization Annex 13 paragraph 5.1.

The ATSB reported on 16th February that it did not conduct an on-site investigation into the occurrence and the aircraft was not salvaged due to the remote location and limited access to salvage resources. As a result, the evidence available was limited and precluded determination of the factor(s) related to the power loss.