

Final report on runway contact accident by tail of Boeing 777-333ER passenger aircraft published

The Air Accident Investigation Authority (AAIA) today (December 31) published the final report (5/2021) on the investigation into an accident involving a Boeing 777-333ER passenger aircraft (registration mark C-FITW) operated by Air Canada that occurred at Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) on December 11, 2018.

At about 2.50pm, the aircraft entered into series of minor lateral roll deviations while landing at the South Runway of HKIA. The pilot introduced inputs into the aircraft to control the roll behaviour. The right-hand main gear contacted the runway first on touchdown, followed by a tail strike. No one was injured. The occurrence was classified as an accident according to the criteria of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

The investigation was conducted by a team of professional investigators in strict adherence to international standards established by the ICAO. The investigation concluded that the cause of the accident was an unstable approach developed due to pilot-induced lateral rolling oscillations of the aircraft, which, coupling with a high rate of descent, resulted in abnormal runway contact.

The investigation team made seven safety recommendations to the operator regarding operational and training refinements.

"The investigation report was published by the AAIA with the objective of identifying the circumstances and causes of the accident with a view to preventing recurrence," an AAIA spokesperson said.

Throughout the investigation, all parties concerned were properly consulted on the report. The report is available for download at the AAIA webpage (www.thb.gov.hk/aaia/eng/investigation_reports/index.htm).