

30 AUGUST 2019

MEDIA RELEASE

REX FLIGHT ZL139 SYDNEY TO MERIMBULA

Regional Express (Rex) flight ZL139 operating from Sydney to Merimbula, 29 August 2019, experienced a cockpit sensor alert associated with the aircraft's right engine en route to Merimbula. In accordance with the manufacturer's standard operating procedures, the flight crew conducted the applicable checklist actions which included an engine shut down. Upon completion of all the checklist actions, the cockpit sensor alert ceased. The aircraft landed safely and without any further incident at Merimbula airport at 8:42 pm.

Both the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) were immediately briefed on the event and will be continually updated on any new information as it becomes available.

Mr Peter Gibson, of CASA, has stated that reports of a fire in the right engine are probably explained by passengers seeing sparks but, "observations this morning don't show the presence of fire".

Mr Gibson further stated that it is not right to link recent allegations relating to Rex to this incident. "People shouldn't jump to conclusions. This doesn't happen often, but it does happen to airlines big and small, that's why there are redundancies in place."

The Saab 340 aircraft is designed and certified to climb, cruise and land safely on one engine which explains why the General Electric (GE) engines on the Saab 340 have clocked over 30 million hours with an impeccable safety record.

Rex Engineers are currently examining the aircraft engine and can confirm that there is no evidence of an engine fire.

Regional Express (Rex) is Australia's largest independent regional airline operating a fleet of more than 50 Saab 340 aircraft on some 1,500 weekly flights to 60 destinations throughout all states in Australia. In addition to the regional airline Regional Express, the **Rex Group** comprises wholly owned subsidiaries **Pel-Air Aviation** (air freight, aeromedical and charter operator) and the **Australian Airline Pilot Academy**.

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