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John Britten is currently assigned as the Safety Action Coordinator in support of the TSB's ongoing investigation into the Swissair Flight 111, off Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia in September 1998. Immediately prior to joining the TSB, LCol Britten concluded a successful 30-year career in the Canadian Air Force. As an aerospace engineer, he held a variety of increasingly responsible engineering and maintenance positions. These included squadrons, base, and headquarter positions responsible for, line and shop maintenance, life cycle material management, as well as research and development projects. His military career culminated as the senior aviation accident investigator in charge of engineering and maintenance investigations on behalf of the air force's Directorate of Flight Safety.

Since joining the TSB, in his capacity as the engineering specialist accident investigator, Mr. Britten is occupied with validating engineering and maintenance deficiencies discovered during investigation activities. Meaningful safety action, directed at change-agents within the aviation community, is the objective of these efforts.