



APERTURE
RESEARCH & VERIFICATION



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MH370

Claims & Evidence Matrix

AUTHOR APPROVED COMPLETE RESEARCH EDITION - AWAITING INDEPENDENT SPECIALIST REVIEW

Evidence cut-off: 7 August 2026

External specialist validation: pending

Institutional right of reply: pending

REALITY BEFORE RELIANCE | VERIFICATION BEFORE INTERPRETATION | EVIDENCE BEFORE NARRATIVE

Independent public-source case study - not a client engagement

Document control	Value
Matter	Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370
Aircraft	Boeing 777-200ER, registration 9M-MRO
Operating mode	Independent public-source case study - not a client engagement
Evidence cut-off	7 August 2026, 14:08 UTC / 16:08 SAST
Current dossier state	Version 0.5 Controlled Internal Final / Author Approved Complete Research Edition - Awaiting Independent Specialist Review
External specialist validation	Not completed
Adversarial review execution	Not completed
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Professional boundary and status

This is an independent public-source research product. It is not an official accident investigation, legal opinion, engineering certification, accredited forensic examination or substitute for the Malaysian Annex 13 investigation. It does not claim access to non-public evidence. Specialist review, institutional right of reply and final publication approval are not simulated.

This matrix is the proposition-level reliance control. It distinguishes observation, inference, public mutation and decision-safe wording.

Evidence classification

Classification	Meaning
ESTABLISHED	Directly supported to a sufficiently high factual standard.
VERY STRONGLY SUPPORTED	Strong convergence with little credible contradictory evidence.
STRONGLY SUPPORTED	Substantial evidence supports the proposition, but material uncertainty remains.
SUPPORTED	Evidence favours the proposition but does not permit strong reliance.
INDETERMINATE	Available evidence does not responsibly discriminate between material alternatives.
WEAK	Technically or logically possible but poorly supported.
UNSUPPORTED	No sufficient positive evidence identified.
CONTRADICTED	Material evidence conflicts with the proposition.

Reliance classification

Reliance	Use
R1	Direct factual reliance.
R2	Strong professional analytical reliance.
R3	Conditional or model-dependent reliance.
R4	Hypothesis-level reliance only.
R5	Do not rely upon as an established factual proposition.

Claims matrix

ID	Public claim	Assessment	Decision-safe wording / reason
C01	MH370 disappeared from all radar immediately after IGARI	Overstated	Normal secondary-surveillance identification ceased, but primary/military radar evidence continued.
C02	A person was conclusively shown to switch off the transponder	Not established	The surveillance outcome is established; exact cockpit switch action and actor are not directly recorded.
C03	ACARS was conclusively deliberately disabled	Not established	Communications behaviour changed; mechanism and intent remain unproven.
C04	MH370 reliably climbed to 45,000 feet	Unsupported / unreliable as precise fact	Official radar reconstruction cautions against extreme altitude/speed values as beyond reliable performance interpretation.
C05	The captain rehearsed the exact MH370 disappearance on his simulator	Not established	Relevant coordinates exist, but public record does not establish one coherent exact rehearsal session.
C06	MH370 carried 2.4 tonnes of lithium batteries	Contradicted	The larger consignment has been conflated with documented battery mass, approximately 221 kg in the project record.
C07	Mangosteens and batteries caused a chemical fire	Unsupported	No occurrence-specific positive evidence establishes this mechanism.
C08	Stolen passports prove terrorism	Unsupported	Security anomaly exists; no sufficient evidence links those passengers to the disappearance.
C09	The seventh arc is the exact crash line	Contradicted as phrased	It is a range locus at the final SATCOM event, not a directly observed impact line.
C10	Only three debris items matter	Misleading	Three items sit at the highest confirmed level, but a larger graded debris corpus exists.
C11	The underwater searches found nothing	Misleading	They did not find the main wreckage but generated high-value negative evidence, seabed data and model falsification.
C12	35S is the known crash site	Not established	It was a serious high-priority model family, materially challenged by non-findings.
C13	25S has solved MH370	Not established	It is a material competing drift hypothesis, not a confirmed location.
C14	Final BFO proves one exact descent rate	Overstated	It strongly supports substantial descent under models; exact rate remains model-dependent.
C15	Retracted flap proves nobody was controlling the aircraft	Contradicted inference	Flap state weakens conventional flap-extended ditching but does not identify final human control state.
C16	Negative explosives tests prove no explosive event could have occurred	Overstated	Selected negative tests do not establish a universal negative for every conceivable mechanism.
C17	Boeing or another party remotely seized the aircraft	Unsupported	No authenticated occurrence-specific evidence establishes remote takeover.
C18	Government errors prove a coordinated cover-up	Unsupported	Material failures can be established without evidence of coordinated deliberate concealment.
C19	The aircraft definitely suffered an emergency	Not established	H6 remains viable but lacks direct occurrence-specific initiating emergency evidence.
C20	The captain definitely caused the loss	Not established	H3 remains strong viable, but actor identity, intent and motive are unresolved.
C21	A northern route remains equally likely	Contradicted by total current evidence	Integrated SATCOM and later physical debris strongly favour the southern Indian Ocean.
C22	Fuel exhaustion is directly recorded	Overstated	It is the best-supported model for the final power sequence, but no FDR directly confirms fuel state.
C23	All 27 debris items are equally strong	Contradicted	Debris items have differing attribution levels including Confirmed, positive association and Not Identifiable.
C24	Surveyed seabed equals absolutely excluded seabed	Overstated	Exclusion depends on sensor performance, terrain, track spacing, quality control and detection probability.
C25	Institutional silence would prove Aperture correct	Prohibited inference	No response to right of reply is administratively recorded, not treated as evidentiary admission.

Material findings ledger

Finding	Classification	Reliance
Normal initial flight	ESTABLISHED	R1
Normal secondary surveillance later ceased	ESTABLISHED	R1
Westward diversion	VERY STRONGLY SUPPORTED	R2
At least part of initial diversion involved active control	STRONGLY SUPPORTED	R2; specialist-dependent
Specific manual transponder shutdown by identified person	NOT ESTABLISHED	R3
18:25 SATCOM log-on occurred	ESTABLISHED	R1
Cause of 18:25 event	INDETERMINATE	R4
Continued multi-hour flight after radar phase	VERY STRONGLY SUPPORTED	R2
Southern route	VERY STRONGLY SUPPORTED	R2
Southern Indian Ocean loss	VERY STRONGLY SUPPORTED	R2
Fuel exhaustion as final power-sequence explanation	STRONGLY SUPPORTED	R2; systems review pending
Final BFOs compatible with substantial rapid descent	STRONGLY SUPPORTED, MODEL-DEPENDENT	R3
Confirmed MH370 debris exists	ESTABLISHED	R1
Right outboard flap most likely retracted at separation	STRONGLY SUPPORTED, SPECIALIST-DEPENDENT	R3
Exact breakup sequence	INDETERMINATE	R4
Explosive destruction as established cause	NOT ESTABLISHED	R4
Around 35S as exact location	NOT ESTABLISHED	R4
Around 25S as solved location	NOT ESTABLISHED	R4
Exact wreckage coordinate	INDETERMINATE	R5
Pilot-in-Command as established actor	NOT ESTABLISHED	R4
Terrorism	UNSUPPORTED	R5
Remote takeover	UNSUPPORTED	R5
Material institutional response/coordination failures	ESTABLISHED	R1
Coordinated Malaysian government cover-up	UNSUPPORTED	R5

Claim mutation ladder

Observation -> Interpretation -> Attribution -> Intent -> Motive. Each movement to the right requires additional evidence. The audit repeatedly found public narratives that move through this ladder without acknowledging the additional evidentiary burden.

Source-dependence rule

Official report -> newspaper -> documentary -> book -> social post can create the appearance of independent confirmation while all derive from one origin. The matrix therefore distinguishes evidentiary lineage from citation volume.

Misinformation versus disinformation

An incorrect or overstated statement is not automatically disinformation. Intent to deceive must itself be established before deliberate deception terminology is used. Operational error, misinformation, overstatement, unsupported allegation and coordinated concealment are kept distinct.

Decision-safe actor wording

At Version 0.5 no individual is identified as the responsible person. The user-approved future rule is that an individual may be described as the strongest candidate only if at least two materially independent evidence streams point specifically to that individual, no equally strong alternative carries the same evidence, and the result remains explicitly inferential rather than proof.