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St Helena Airport Rescue & Fire Fighting Service

The Rescue & Fire Fighting Service at St Helena Airport has been receiving ongoing training to ensure they are competent to perform their fire fighting duties. Safety audits have also been conducted to ensure there is an external view into their operations and work processes.

Daily tasks that have been achieved include ongoing corrosion control on all of the ramp equipment, aircraft movements - which allows ramp operations and ensures competency training in this area is continuous - and daily, weekly, and monthly inspections and operational checks of emergency vehicles, fire fighting detection and suppression equipment.

The team has focused on training in areas including Rope Rescue, ICAO Instructor training, Triage and 'live' fire training with the SHG Fire Service.

The St Helena Airport Rescue & Fire Fighting Service is a multi-skilled team that is challenged on a daily basis whether during training, emergencies, or during daily duties which can be strenuous, both mentally and physically, hence the requirement for continuous training programmes.



Airport Directorate Staff Training Update

External Aviation Advisor, Simon Walker, was recently on-Island training Airport Directorate staff with particular focus on the Airport Operations Section. However, all staff received general training throughout the two-week period, on a variety of topics relating to the Airport industry.

Topics included:

Economics & the Airline Industry - focussing on the affects of oil prices, industry infrastructure and growth in tourism, business and manufacturing/export, as well as identifying potential revenue and costs

Regulations - insuring that St Helena operates to the Overseas Territories Aviation Requirements (OTARS)

Safeguarding - obstacle awareness (aircraft take-off and landing) and wildlife management at airports

Technical Regulations - covering Airport Certification, Emergency Planning and the responsibilities of stakeholders during an emergency incident

Commercial Opportunities - concentrating on airport design and marketing opportunities as well as business planning, market awareness and business forecasting

Airport Directorate staff felt the training was informative and beneficial, particularly as the Airport Operations Section has now embarked on overseas training in the **Airport Management Professional Accreditation Programme**.



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Cannons at St Helena Airport

The Landscape & Ecology Mitigation Programme (LEMP) completed a project to place two cannons at St Helena Airport. Provided by the St Helena Heritage Society, the two cannons along with two carriages, made by Brian Davies, were placed in front of the Terminal Building. They were moved to the Airport on Wednesday, 8 February, by Nigel George and were installed on Tuesday, 14 February 2017, by Basil Read personnel.



Airport Operations Section Exposure Visit

Deputy Airport Contracts Manager, James Kellett, and Contracts Support Manager, Tessa Roberts, are currently undergoing an exposure visit in the UK and the USA. Their programme will include visits to two airports, work placements, and the attendance at an accredited training event in the USA.

The purpose of their exposure visit is to gain an understanding of the theoretical and practical issues arising from aviation operations. They will then use what they have learnt to further understand the complexities of running St Helena Airport. This means that from both a contract management and operations perspective, James and Tessa will have the necessary skills and knowledge to assist St Helena Government in maintaining an operational airport.

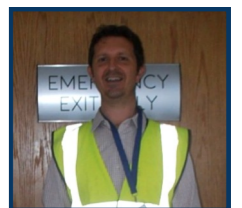
Their work placements will start at London City Airport, where they will spend three days shadowing various departments in the Airport. This will provide an understanding of how airports function and how those departments interact with each other. They will then spend ten days at Jersey Airport in the Channel Islands.

These work placements will include a tour of the Airport, a shift with the Air Traffic Control and Rescue & Fire Fighting teams and a visit to the General Aviation & Corporate teams. They will also meet with government officials with a view to understanding the relationship between governments and airports. This work placement is expected to give them a good understanding of how an airport on an island is used as both a gateway to the island but also as a very important component of the tourism industry.

Tessa and James will then attend a five day course in Atlanta (USA) run by the Airports Council International, focussing on the theory behind the aviation industry and how it functions on a global scale. This will be the first step in a three-year training programme to achieve the ACIs Associate Diploma, which is an internationally recognised qualification for airport professionals.

James said:

"I am delighted and honoured to be able to attend the training and work placements. I am particularly keen to understand the relationships between airports and governments so that I can use this knowledge in my role as Deputy Airport Contracts Manager for St Helena Government."



Tessa added:

"I am keen to commence the work placements with London City Airport and Jersey Airport. Work placements will give me first-hand experience and an understanding of how airports operate which will assist me in my new role within the Airport Directorate. We have a busy schedule ahead of us. However, this presents a great opportunity to develop relationships with other airports as there is much we can learn from them."



St Helena Airport