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SHG Press Office

# St Helena Airport

## 'Open Ended' Aerodrome Certificate

St Helena Airport was granted an 'open ended' Aerodrome Certificate on Monday, 3 April 2017. Acting Accountable Manager for St Helena Airport, Alan Shaw, said:  
*"The recent visit by the Air Safety Support International (ASSI) Senior Aerodrome Inspector, Justin Rothwell, and Air Traffic Services Inspector & Safety Development Specialist, Sarah Lee, was part of routine oversight that ASSI takes across all the Overseas Territories, that do not have their own Directorate of Civil Aviation.*  
*"It is credit to the Team at the Airport that since the last ASSI visit in October 2015 - the first after the Certification of the Airport in May that year - ASSI consider St Helena to be a mature and safe enough operation that an open ended, rather than time limited, Aerodrome Certificate has been issued. St Helena ranks amongst the highest in terms of safety and operation which is a great credit to both the Airport Team and the St Helena Government. This has been recognised by ASSI in the issue of the current Aerodrome Certificate."*

### Reception Held for MCA & ASSI Teams at Plantation

On Tuesday 21 March, Acting Governor, Judi Leon, hosted a small reception for Basil Read Management, ASSI, the Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA) and others. The MCA formed part of a joint regulatory oversight visit to the Island during which the St Helena Sea Rescue, St Helena Fire & Rescue Service and the Airport Rescue & Firefighting Service carried out joint exercises, observed by ASSI and the MCA. The Acting Governor was appraised of ASSI's intention to issue an open ended Aerodrome Certificate.



L-R: Justin Rothwell (ASSI), Tim Sullivan (MCA), Regi John (MCA), Sarah Lee (ASSI) & Acting Governor, Judi Leon

## Commissioning (BFI) Activities & Pipe Works in Rupert's

Plans are underway for the commissioning of the Airport Fuel Facility (AFF). There are stringent requirements when dealing with fuel, particularly with Jet A1 fuel, and it is important to ensure that the fuel systems meet the appropriate standards. In order to commission the AFF, all mechanical and electrical systems have to be checked and verified fit for purpose. The fuel lines will be purged with air and flushed with fuel to ensure that there is no risk of fuel contamination or fuel leakage. Other works like soak testing will follow. If all of these checks are successful, the AFF will be ready for the operational testing.

Construction of the Bulk Fuel Installation in Rupert's is nearing the final stages. A similar process is then planned for commissioning. The checks are numerous and time consuming in view of the size and complexity of this installation.



Bulk Fuel Installation at Rupert's  
© PMU

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## Update on Rupert's Wharf

Rupert's Wharf



### Rupert's Wharf

In June 2016, major construction works to Rupert's Wharf were completed. This was followed by the construction of the Wharf Access Road and the installation of services. During the mandatory snagging process it was noted that a small section of the anchor rock had been displaced at the roundhead section of the Wharf. Basil Read and the Halcrow Project Management Unit (PMU) agreed a plan for this to be rectified. Works are currently underway to arrange the logistics to ship equipment and personnel to St Helena to undertake this work.

### Operationalising Rupert's Wharf

In order for the Wharf to be operationalised, the appropriate navigational charts need to be finalised and the appropriate working procedures and processes documented. Works continue on plans to operationalise the port, incorporating the container and customs facilities. Design work is currently being undertaken by Royal Haskoning. Once complete, the proposal will be made available for public consultation. More will follow on this in future Airport Updates.

### Wave Overtopping

In March 2017, two warnings were issued from the Harbour Master regarding the severe sea conditions expected at James' Bay and Rupert's. During this period there were several occasions where overtopping (when waves meet a submerged reef or structure, and when waves meet an emerged reef or structure lower than the approximate wave height) occurred at the Wharf in Rupert's. The potential for wave overtopping was considered and modelled during the design phase of Rupert's Wharf and some overtopping is to be expected. The Wharf Health & Safety file sets out the inspection details to be undertaken after each event. A joint inspection was undertaken by Airport Project personnel and the Harbour Authority after the recent overtopping occurrences. Some very minor settlement has occurred as expected. Regular inspection will continue as per the design specifications for the Wharf.

It is essential that all warnings issued by the Harbour Master are strictly adhered to and members of the public are advised not to venture onto the Wharf during these occasions.

## Haul Road Remains Closed



The public is reminded that the Haul Road - from Rupert's through to Reggie's Takeaway at Bottom Woods - remains a part of the Airport Project and is still a construction site.

The road is therefore closed to all members of the public.

