



Airport Certification

In the January edition of this Airport Update, we reported that Basil Read was taking part in a further round of desktop audits with the regulator, Air Safety Support International (ASSI). These were completed at the end of January 2016.

Basil Read has now progressed to the final round of desktop audits which are taking place this week. Pending the outcome of these desktop audits, we then progress to an on-site audit by ASSI. This is provisionally scheduled for early April 2016, but the exact timing is dependent on any corrective action required following the desktop audits.

In the meantime, all parties involved in the Airport Project are focused on ensuring that all the necessary procedures are implemented in good time to ensure the safety and security of our airport. Personnel continue to undergo training to ensure that they are ready to commence the operations phase.

The target date for the official opening of St Helena Airport remains Saturday 21 May 2016 - with airport operations to commence prior to this.

Issue No. 72
3 March 2016
SHG Press Office

St Helena Airport



Airport Terminal Building
5 February 2016

Interim Accountable Manager & Certification Manager



Alan Shaw arrived on St Helena on Monday 4 January 2016, as the Interim Accountable Manager & Certification Manager for St Helena Airport. During his time on-Island, Alan worked to progress various elements needed to achieve certification with ASSI.

He delivered training courses on Airport Operations, including aerodrome licensing, health & safety, airside safety, and declared distances to airport staff, Basil Read and St Helena Government.

Alan has spent 50 years in aviation, with 23 years in the field of operational air traffic management. His career has covered air traffic, fuelling operations, operational regulatory requirements, airport security, rescue & fire fighting, security, safeguarding, and terminal building services. He has also advised UK aviation authorities and the states of Jersey and the Channel Islands. Alan has also served as Head of Operations at Leeds Bradford International Airport in the UK. His experience of international airports includes being the safety management and training advisor to the Iraq Civil Aviation Authority based in Baghdad.

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Deputy Aerodrome Manager

Gavin Pare arrived on St Helena on 6 February 2016 as Deputy Aerodrome Manager and Head of Safety for St Helena Airport. A typical day for Gavin involves fine-tuning procedures with his team to enable St Helena Airport to deliver efficient and effective operations. He is also focusing on operational safety readiness. Gavin has 17 years' experience in the aviation industry and began his career with the Royal Navy, carrying out landing operations on various Aircraft carriers in remote locations during times of conflict. Gavin said: "After leaving the Royal Navy, I was tempted by 'island life' and used my aviation fire-fighter training to secure a position as a fire-fighter on Ascension Island. Wanting to progress my career in aviation, I then worked in Kabul in Afghanistan, as an Operations Manager for various companies." In this role Gavin's main duties included training internationally recruited staff on all aspects of ground and ramp operations. He then became an Airside Operations Manager at London Luton Airport and, prior to arriving on St Helena, he was Ground Operations Manager for a private airline based at the Kingdom of Bahrain's International Airport. Gavin commented: "This most recent role was by far the most challenging, as I was hired at the 'start-up' phase, which meant building a fully certified, operational airline from the ground up."



Gavin is now working closely with Aerodrome Manager Nigel Spackman and the ground staff at St Helena Airport. He spoke of his impressions of the Airport so far: "Having been to St Helena before the airport was built, I have great admiration for what has been achieved, with the obvious challenges that building an airport in such a remote location presented. "I feel privileged to have this opportunity to work with St Helena Airport's first ever operations team. With the collective skills and experience amongst the team, we will do our utmost to ensure St Helena has the safe and efficient airport that it so rightly deserves."

Councillors Visit Airport



Councillors and SHG personnel visited Rupert's Wharf, LEMP Planting areas and the St Helena Airport Buildings on 5 February 2016. The visitors were able to witness and participate in the trial of some procedures at St Helena Airport.

Site Security

To ensure public safety whilst construction works continue, Rupert's Wharf remains a closed site, and members of the public currently are unable to access the temporary slipway.

Members of the public wishing to access the slipway must obtain prior written authority from Basil Read before entering the site.



Rupert's Sheers
5 February 2016

Bottom Woods Access Road



Bottom Woods Access Road
Jan 2016

The public are also reminded that the Bottom Woods Access Road remains part of the Airport Project and is an active construction site.

Drivers are reminded to pay close attention to signage and to drive with care for safety reasons.

Your continued support is appreciated.