



Issue No. 80
12 January 2017

St Helena Airport

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Embraer ERJ-190-100 Jet Aircraft at St Helena Airport 2016



2016 - A Year In Review



January - Bulk Fuel Installation

Work continued on the construction of the BFI and the pipelines which will supply the BFI with ground and aviation fuels.

February - Airport Certification
Prior to on-site audits in April 2016, Basil Read successfully completed a final round of desktop audits in support of Airport Certification.



Airport Terminal Building
5 February 2016



March - Trial Procedures at St Helena Airport

Councillors and SHG personnel visited Rupert's Wharf, LEMP planting areas and the St Helena Airport building. The visitors were able to witness and participate in the trial of some procedures at St Helena Airport.

April - Large Passenger Jet Aircraft Lands At St Helena Airport
History was made on St Helena on Monday, 18 April 2016, as the first large passenger jet aircraft, a Boeing 737-800 (ZS-ZWG), touched down at St Helena's new Airport shortly after 12.00 noon. Although the aircraft landed safely, it encountered greater than expected wind shear on its final approach. As such, the opening of the Airport to scheduled flights was postponed to allow for additional investigative work to be conducted in order to ensure the safe operation of passenger flights to and from the Airport.



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2016 - A Year In Review

May - St Helena Airport Certified

Another milestone for St Helena Airport was achieved on 10 May 2016. Air Safety Support International (ASSI) issued an Aerodrome Certificate to St Helena Airport, having been satisfied that the Airport infrastructure, aviation security measures and air traffic control service complied with international aviation safety and security standards. Achieving certification at the first attempt was a major achievement given the magnitude, remoteness and logistical challenges of the project

June - First Medevac Flight

The first emergency aero-medical evacuation took place on 3 June 2016 at St Helena Airport when a Falcon 20 aircraft operated by emergency response specialists ER24 arrived from Walvis Bay, Namibia, to collect a baby needing urgent medical care.



July - MV Greta Docks at Rupert's Wharf

The MV Greta, chartered by Basil Read, arrived at St Helena late on Friday 1 July 2016, to transport materials and equipment to and from the Island for the St Helena Airport Project. The MV Greta made her approach to Rupert's Wharf early on Sunday morning, and berthed successfully at around 8am. This was the very first time a vessel docked at the Permanent Wharf in Rupert's.

August - Removal of Road

The road that previously provided access to the Millennium Forest and Horse Point Landfill site was removed and replaced by a new road that links the Airport to the Island's road network. The old road was rehabilitated by LEMP and St Helena National Trust, forming an extension to Millennium Forest.



September - LIDAR & MET Analysis

LIDAR equipment (Light Detection & Ranging) was installed for St Helena Airport. It uses a beam of light to measure the presence and movement of particles in the atmosphere from which can be inferred the movement and speed of the wind. The equipment was used as part of ongoing investigative work to look at the weather conditions at the Airport.

October - Tronos Flight

An Avro RJ100 jet aircraft, operated by Tronos Jet Maintenance, and carrying Atlantic Star Airlines' personnel, arrived at St Helena Airport as a technical stop, en-route for delivery of the aircraft to Chile. The flight provided the Airport with additional real time data and a pilot's report - these help to build a more comprehensive picture of the conditions at St Helena Airport under which we will be asking a scheduled air service to operate.

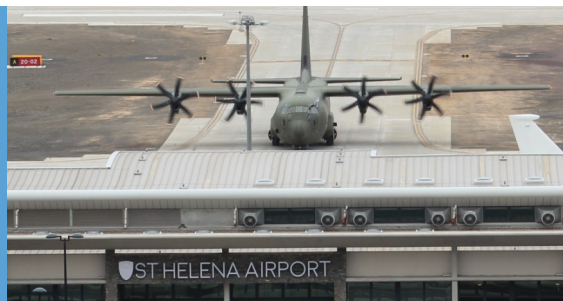


November - Embraer Flight

An Embraer ERJ-190-100 jet aircraft operated by Embraer Commercial Aviation, arrived at St Helena Airport on Tuesday 29 November 2016. The Embraer aircraft conducted a number of planned fly-bys and landings on Runway 20 to provide additional data on the performance of the aircraft and the prevailing weather conditions at the Airport.

December - Successful C130J Hercules Flight

A Lockheed Martin C130J Hercules aircraft operated by the Royal Air Force and commissioned by DFID successfully conducted a technical flight to St Helena Airport on Sunday, 18 December 2016. The aircraft undertook approaches to both runways, a fly-by and completed a normal landing on Runway 20.



Air Service Procurement

St Helena Government (SHG) announced on Wednesday, 7 December 2016, the commencement of the process to procure an air service provider or providers to the Island of St Helena in the South Atlantic Ocean.

SHG is seeking to award a contract or contracts to a suitably qualified organisation or organisations to provide regular air services to the Island, including a direct service between St Helena and Ascension Island to meet the needs of Saints and their employers on Ascension Island and the Falkland Islands.

The closing date for tenders is Friday, 27 January 2017. Whilst all dates are provisional and dependent on the outcome of the procurement exercise, SHG aims to award a final contract by the end of May 2017.

Fuel Receipt Infrastructure at Rupert's Bayside

Works are progressing well on the fuel receipt infrastructure at Rupert's Bayside. This section of the Bulk Fuel Installation (BFI) will be used to receive the fuel as it is pumped from the tanker and to transfer it to the storage facility in upper Rupert's Valley.

The tanks have been placed in location and works will continue with their installation and the installation of the associated pipework. Each area will be enclosed by bunding which is currently being constructed. Works on the permanent access road to the area is also being finalised.



Commissioning of the Airport Fuel Facility

The commissioning of the Airport Fuel Facility, located at the Airport Site, is the **final step** before it is handed over to the Fuel Management Contractor (Penspen) for them to operate. Commissioning will involve a number of checks to ensure that the facility is functioning properly. As part of commissioning, fuel will be introduced to the facility for the first time and various tests will be conducted.

Use Of Drones on St Helena

The public is reminded of the use of drones on St Helena. Small Unmanned Aircrafts (SUA), (also known as quadcopters, UAVs, radio controlled aircraft or drones) are subject to restrictions depending upon when and where they are flown, and how much they weigh.

The use of such drones on St Helena must comply with the Air Navigation (Overseas Territories) Order 2013 and accompanying public guidance on drone use. In particular:

- You must not fly an SUA over a congested area, within 50 metres of another person, vehicle or building, or within 150 metres of a crowd of 1000 people or more without appropriate permission. This is to ensure that the safety and privacy of people and property is not compromised or endangered when a drone is flown over other people and property not owned by the user of the drone.*
- If you intend to use your SUA for any kind of commercial activity - including selling recorded images - you must obtain prior approval from the international regulator, Air Safety Support International (ASSI)*

The guidelines and restrictions, published a number of times in 2015 and 2016, are available at: <http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Air-Navigation-Overseas-Territories-Order-Information-for-Public1.pdf>

Further information about using a drone safely and lawfully will be published in next month's edition.

