

PARAPARAUMU AIRPORT LIMITED

Newsletter – July 2010

Welcome to the Paraparaumu Airport newsletter.

This is an update of matters of interest to airport users and the Kapiti Community. Visit our website www.paraparaumuairport.co.nz

PRIME MINISTER VISITS PARAPARAUMU AIRPORT

At the beginning of this year Prime Minister John Key visited Paraparaumu Airport along with Local MP Nathan Guy to officiate the beginning of the main runway upgrade.

Sir Noel Robinson gave the PM a short presentation on the airport development plans before Mr. Key officially opened the beginning of the upgrade work to the main runway.

The upgrade work includes an overlay of the runway and western apron, as well as changes to the runway lighting infrastructure.

All the design work for the upcoming overlay of the main runway and western apron area, plus the additional runway lighting is now complete.

Invitations to tender for the job have been sent out to suitably qualified contractors.

The runway upgrade will involve some minor repairs and contour corrections to the main runway before it is completely overlaid with a slurry treatment and repainted. Work will also be done to upgrade the runway lighting system. The work is expected to take place this coming summer.



Sir Noel Robinson and PM John Key looking South down main runway at Paraparaumu Airport

AIRPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

ESTABLISHMENT OF RUNWAY 12/30

Runway 12/30 was opened in February of this year. The new runway is over 650 metres long and is designated as an imperative use runway, rather than a fully operational runway.

Imperative use will be when light aircraft cannot land on either the sealed or grass runways 16/34 due to adverse cross winds or obstructions, and landing is absolutely necessary or unavoidable and no suitable alternative is available

INTERIM PASSENGER TERMINAL

Design work is nearing completion for the Interim Passenger Terminal.

PAL is using a local construction company for the design and construction of the terminal.

Once complete the terminal will provide opportunities for local catering companies, local taxi and hire car companies, as well as new jobs for ground handling staff.

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

This year has seen the maintenance team at the airport settle into a more routine maintenance programme after last year's major upgrades prior to CAA certification. Regular runway, apron, and taxiway maintenance has been carried out

ESTABLISHMENT OF SOUTHERN INSTRUMENT APPROACH

Airways NZ Ltd has almost completed design work for a GPS approach for aircraft arriving from the south. This approach will allow aircraft to safely use the southern runway during poor weather conditions.

Design work has involved extensive survey work of the area, along with airspace changes and consultation with local aircraft operators.

The approach is scheduled to become operational by the end of this year

AIRPORT EMERGENCY EXERCISE

On the 4th of February this year PAL conducted a full scale emergency exercise involving airport staff and local emergency services.

A scenario was created involving a runway incursion between fictitious flight 01 of ABC Airlines (10 passenger seat aircraft) and training flight 02 of XYZ flight school.

Car wrecks were set alight to simulate the crashed aircraft.

The exercise went well with a good turnout by the emergency services including the Westpac rescue helicopter.

A debrief was held after the event with valuable lessons learnt by all involved.

The exercise met the Part 139 requirements for the airport. Another full exercise is due in two years time



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- National Children's Day (March 2010)
- Rotary Club Annual Charity Golf Tournament

NOISE MANAGEMENT

COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

The Community Liaison Group continues to provide oversight on how the airport company is managing noise complaints.

A revised Noise Management Plan pursuant to plan change 73 is nearing completion.

STAGE ONE DEVELOPMENT

Earthworks have commenced for Stage 1 of a new business park at the airport to be named KAPITI LANDING.

AT THE AIRPORT

HELIPRO

Located in the biggest building on Paraparaumu Airport is Helipro Aviation Training, an internationally recognised organisation providing a very high quality of flight training for fixed and rotary wing students. Operating under the NMIT banner, Helipro provides New Zealand domestic students the opportunity to have funded training on helicopters up to commercial standard. Currently their fixed wing flight training does not attract domestic student funding, so they have specialised in providing to self-funded international students training to commercial license level), with additional qualifications in single and multi-engine Instrument Ratings, and "B" and "C" CAT Instructor ratings. A newly commissioned fixed wing training base at Palmerston North has been added to their portfolio with three C152s and five instructors. Helipro is also undertaking certification for Part 145 (Aircraft Maintenance) operations to add to their current CAA certifications (Parts 141, 119 and 135) for flight training and commercial air operations.

Headed by Base Manager Geoff Beckett (CFI Fixed Wing) with support from Deputy Base Manager Jacquie Cheater and Matt Nixon (CFI Helicopter Training) the 26 staff comprising a mixture of "B" and "C" CAT fixed wing and helicopter instructors and support staff are kept busy. To provide practical flight training the Paraparaumu operation has 14 owned/ leased fixed wing aircraft, together with several helicopters owned by the company.

Maintenance support for the fixed wing aircraft is provided on site by Aerotechnology South Ltd and for immediate servicing of the helicopters by Helipro maintenance personnel on site, with primary

maintenance being carried out at the new maintenance facility at Palmerston North. Helipro has also taken the initiative to retain two Indian "C" CAT fixed wing instructors on the staff to provide beneficial cultural input into the training system. Currently there are 20 funded domestic helicopter students, two Indian self-funded helicopter students and 36 International fixed wing students from India, Bahrain, and Oman. Recruiting of Indian students is via a proven agency system developed over several years. The students from the Middle Eastern countries have come to Helipro on the recommendation of friends who knew about the quality of training provided.

Photo: A group of international students and their Kiwi instructors move out on the tarmac to commence pre-flight checks on their fixed wing aircraft.



WEDDING ON A RUNWAY

This past summer Daniel Davenport and Lynda Harrap tied the knot at a wedding ceremony held at the airport on one of the disused runways. Mr. Davenport is an air traffic control and Ms. Harrap works at the airport as a helicopter instructor, hence the aviation themed wedding ceremony. Ms. Harrap flew herself to the ceremony in a helicopter.

FEEDBACK

We welcome your feedback on any items in this newsletter and/or ways you think we could improve our communication with you.