



Freeman Freight: Aviation Logistics Specialists

SPECIALISING in freight forwarding for the aviation industry, including transporting whole aircraft anywhere in the world, Warwick Freeman of Freeman Freight can design and manage international and domestic freight forwarding projects from start to finish. His company is backed by an enormous amount of aviation logistics experience and offers a single point of contact for all requirements regardless of complexity. Warwick also manages AA Couriers, an Auckland based courier and trucking company providing a twice daily service around the city, including to North Shore, Auckland, and Ardmore Airports.

History and Experience

Warwick's career (which actually began in the NZ banking industry) and adventures to date could easily fill a book. On the adventure side, his passion for travel has seen him backpack through 80 countries including most of Russia and Africa, where he became adept at dealing with difficult situations in foreign places. This experience formed the base for a career shift to international freight forwarding, with Warwick spending 9 years in England in various logistics roles. His travel experience meant that he was always given the most remote and most difficult projects to deal with and his successes in this regard led to a UK based role in Rare Art and Antiquity Logistics, a position that involved chartering 767's to move wealthy clients art collections and belongings around the world. Warwick also represented such clients at auctions, purchasing valuable artwork on their behalf and then transporting it home as carry on luggage.

In the UK Warwick then became involved in specialist aviation parts and AOG support logistics, a role that included sourcing parts in alignment with maintenance schedules and aircraft locations for companies such as Lufthansa, Virgin, Air Atlanta and more. This frequently involved air charter and heavy truck transport logistics right across Europe. At times, Warwick would fly to where the part was and bring it back himself as hand or checked luggage – one memorable trip involving exactly this approach for two Boeing 747 nose wheels.

By 2004 Warwick was back in New Zealand working for Bax Global in a specialist role looking after engine freight logistics and other aviation requirements. Among other projects, this involved international freighting of a Bell UH-1 for Beck Helicopters and one of NEST's Sikorsky S-76s.

Not long after this, Warwick formed his own freight and logistics services company, specialising in supporting the NZ aviation



NEST's latest S-76 being re-assembled at Auckland wharves for it's flight to Ardmore;

industry. He has since been involved in a variety of helicopter, microlight and larger aircraft imports and exports, as well as extensive parts logistics including specialist engine crating and transport.

Recent significant examples include another S-76 import for NEST, and several movements of Skywork's K-Max between NZ and offshore destinations. Warwick's services have also been frequently employed to move support equipment for overseas missions. Helicopter Services in Taupo are another long term customer, with Warwick providing logistics support for Rescue and other aircraft particularly under AOG conditions where short leadtime and clear communication are of critical importance.

24/7 support and best cost results

Warwick has a growing list of long term customers throughout the industry. He offers 24/7 support every day of the year, with aviation minded care and attention. Warwick says he prides himself on designing and managing logistics projects that meet his customers' needs, and on finding services at best cost for whatever delivery timeframe is available. His experience means that he can usually foresee and rectify any problems along the way, and with a policy of continuous communication, customers always know

exactly where their project is at. He can also advise on the best means for safe and cost effective packaging, giving consideration to whether the same crates and materials will be needed for later return to New Zealand.

Auckland courier and trucking services

After Warwick had started his own business, an opportunity arose to purchase an Auckland company that specialised in automotive parts transport. AA Couriers

operated 14 vans on a daily run stretching from Helensville and Orewa in the north to Tuakau in the south. The company now has three big rigs as well which travel anywhere that is required. These capabilities fit well with the aviation logistics business such that Warwick is able to offer aviation freight forwarding and parts courier services with a knowledge of the industry, management of all services required for

import/export/customs/MAF etc, and 24/7 flexibility. If it's what will get the job done to the requirements of the customer, then Warwick will be in the truck himself, heading somewhere overnight with an important AOG part on board.

These capabilities combined with personal service and an aviation mindset offer good benefits to aviation customers and Warwick is keen to expand this side of the business. Their vans and trucks can pick up (potentially AOG) parts from Auckland Airport or the wharves and deliver to Ardmore for example, twice a day. This is easily managed with their own staff and transport infrastructure. Warwick emphasises that "We aren't constrained by another companies operations and can pull out the stops when required." The company holds accounts with FedEx and TNT so can connect directly with international parcels and shipments meaning less handling of the goods and avoiding the risk of lack of care by general haulage companies.

For more information

Warwick can be contacted on 0273 400 284, e: freemanfreight@xtra.co.nz or visit www.freemanfreight.co.nz

AA Couriers office number is 09 634 2794, e: warwick@aacouriers.co.nz or visit www.aacouriers.co.nz