



Demand for AIRCARE takes off

APPLICATIONS for AIRCARE accreditation have 'taken off' in the last few months reports Kevin Oldham, a director of Navigatus Consulting Limited. Navigatus is the service provider to the Aviation industry Association (AIA) for AIRCARE audits. "The rate of applications from agricultural operators has been steady, but we are now seeing a surge of audits for tourism operators, flight training providers and EMS operators" says Kevin.

New requirements from the Department of Conservation (DoC) requiring AIRCARE accreditation for flights into and out of DoC controlled areas, including Milford Sound, is one of the key drivers. But the AIA is also seeing an increase in demand for AIRCARE from other sectors. DoC has reaffirmed that its requirements come in to force from 1 January 2013. To hold a DoC concession beyond that date Operators must demonstrate compliance with AIRCARE.

Fortunately Navigatus has also lifted its capability with the appointment of Peter Wakefield as the Audit Programme Manager. Peter brings extensive experience in auditing, having been an ISO9001 auditor for 10 years. Peter also implemented one of the first aviation SMS systems in NZ. "We needed someone with both audit and SMS expertise and have been very fortunate to have Peter join Navigatus to lead our team of four field auditors" said Kevin.

The AIA has also been active in expanding the sectors where AIRCARE is offered. The latest development is fire-fighting in accordance with the AIRCARE Fire Fighting Code of Practice developed in conjunction with the Rural Fire Service.

About AIRCARE

AIRCARE is an advanced accreditation system that helps aviation operators improve flight safety and quality, and to reduce environmental effects. Increasingly, parties such as the Department of Conservation and forestry companies are requiring AIRCARE accreditation to ensure best practice from the aviation sector. And AIRCARE is the vehicle that delivers best practice. Local

and Regional Councils dealing with noise and discharges are also looking at AIRCARE for the same reason.

"If we don't act as an industry to sort ourselves out then regulation will be forced upon us. And we only have to look to Europe to see how regulations can kill general aviation. So with AIRCARE we are on the front foot and are offering a solution from the aviation industry that is effective and at modest cost" says

AIA Chief Executive, Irene King. "The fact that Navigatus as independent auditors, also make optional added-value recommendations to operators is a big additional benefit – as it helps to spread best practice in our industry".

AIRCARE accreditation is available for both AIA members and non-members. "We are delighted with the level of

service and urge all Operators to join the programme. It is not only good for Operators, but is also helping to ensure that our industry continues to survive and thrive." said Irene.

AIRCARE at Aviation Week

At the coming conference in Rotorua, AIA and Operators will review lessons learnt from the audits conducted to date. It is critical that there are continuous feed-back loops, particularly for Safety management Systems. AIRCARE is the only programme in New Zealand introducing SMS on a structured and nation-wide basis within the aviation space.

Attendance at the AIA Rotorua conference in August will also be recognised for two lucky participants who will be awarded AIRCARE audits to the value of \$2,000 by way of reimbursement of costs, once the audit is complete.

For more information

To learn more about AIRCARE and becoming accredited, visit www.aia.org.nz or www.navigatusconsulting.com, contact Kevin Oldham at Navigatus Consulting on 021 225 5001 or email: k.oldham@navigatusconsulting.com



AIRCARE accreditation is a mandatory requirement for flights into and out of DoC controlled areas such as Milford Sound from 1 January 2013.

SMS Courses at Aviation Week

Sat 4th to Mon 6th August (3 days)

Bookings via www.aia.org.nz

Aviation Risk Management

This three day course is designed specifically for aviation organisations. The course will present leading concepts in risk management, give participants the practical skills and knowledge required and present them a model to apply the risk management process within the context of aviation orientated scenarios. Participants will become familiar with risk management philosophy, practice and process. It caters for all risk areas within the aviation industry including safety, reputation, operations, security, engineering and the environment. The course will enable participants to conduct risk assessments and develop a qualitative risk assessment or risk management plan on any activity.

Safety Management Systems

This three day course in Safety Management Systems (SMS) is designed to introduce participants to SMS background, definition and application. The course will present leading concepts in SMS, provide insight into practices from around the globe and is designed to give participants the practical skills and knowledge to implement or enhance SMS within their organisation. The course will assist participants to understand the background and philosophy that underpins an SMS, defines the elements of an SMS and provide key tips and traps for implementation. There are different ways used by organisations to manage their safety risks, but one of the most common is through the establishment of a good safety system.

Operational Risk Management

This three day course in Operational Risk Management (ORM) covers the application of risk management to all operational activities. The course provides trainees with a comprehensive background to risk management concepts while providing tools for the identification, assessment and treatment of risks at an operational level. As a key element of the SMS, ORM is suitable for supervisors, safety professionals and line staff. At the conclusion of the course, trainees will become familiar with risk management philosophy, practice and process and will be competent to develop a risk assessment, risk profile or risk management plan for any activity, project, task or function in their work area.