



More Capability at Central Aero Engineering

OFFERING aircraft owners and operators a total service results in satisfaction not only for the aircraft owner but also brings benefits when dealing with regulatory issues and requirements. Paul Waterhouse, principal of Hamilton based Central Aero Engineering says they frequently demonstrate the advantages that can accrue from one stop shop maintenance and advice. This includes both fixed and rotary wing, with a number of the latter projects passing through the hangar recently. Central Aero assisted with the acquisition and local commissioning of HAL, a Bell Jetranger III, from the US for Waikato based Heliworx who will be operating it primarily in an ag application role. As well, a re-commissioned Hughes 269A, HLQ has now departed to the South Island for private ops and HOW, a Mini500 has also recently been readied for private ops.

“We’ve steadily expanded our capability over the last nine months primarily through widening our general and recreational aviation activity” says Paul. With two LAMEs who have ARA capability, Central Aero has added hot air balloon inspection and system testing to its portfolio. Both Paul and Steve have become licensed balloon inspectors. Coverage is primarily through the central North Island and already an average of one balloon a month has been passing through the workshop.

Glider maintenance is also occupying an increasing part of the business, particularly avionics inspection and testing to satisfy the 24 month certification requirement for pitot/static systems and transponder function. A continued investment in tooling and equipment sees new portable test equipment to enable either workshop or on-site visits. And a recently acquired set of



Central Aero have recently added hot air balloon inspection and system testing to their maintenance portfolio.



Portable test equipment enables remote avionic inspection to be completed, popular with the gliding community.



JetRanger HAL, recently arrived in NZ and commissioned by Central Aero for Waikato based Heliworx.

scales for weight and balance confirmation further adds capability.

Cessna SID Programme Support

Paul says there has also been an increasing demand for maintenance control and consultancy relating to forthcoming regulatory issues for GA aircraft owners; “The requirements outlined for compliance with the forthcoming Cessna Supplementary Inspection Documents (SIDs) are occupying many owners’ minds. A one-stop shop such as this that has a depth of experience without high overheads offers the opportunity of a total personal service at a realistic cost. The Cessna SIDs programme for 100 series aircraft has a June 2014 compliance date and this is an extensive check and confirmation exercise. A number of customer aircraft are currently undergoing the process and it will be advantageous to book a slot now rather than later. As an incentive Central Aero can offer a ‘cash back’ credit if work arising from the SIDs inspection is carried out by Central Aero. Having a 20 month envelope of time before compliance is mandated can spread the cost of the programme and enables a custom maintenance programme to be evolved for the owner. In fact, all aircraft owners should pay attention to what Cessna have done regarding corrosion issues.”

For more information

Central Aero Engineering welcomes enquiries from balloon, glider, and Cessna owners, as well as all those seeking one-stop personal servicing for their aircraft. Contact Paul on 07 843 1200 or 021 743 033, email: paul@centralaero.co.nz or visit www.centralaero.co.nz

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