

Eurocopter focused on Maintenance for Availability

EVEN THOUGH maintenance is an unquestionable part of any helicopter operation it should not be disruptive to operators. Paul Marais, Manager of Eurocopter International Pacific NZ (EIPNZ) at Ardmore explains their maintenance philosophy as a dual focus on ensuring safe flight operations as well as availability of aircraft.

EIPNZ's approach of "innovating maintenance services" has led to the development of specific maintenance concepts that complement operational availability on each of the EC120B, AS350 series and EC130B4 helicopters. These concepts, which are aligned to the Master Servicing Recommendations and undertaken by factory trained staff, allow for fixed labour pricing with agreed turn-around times for all scheduled inspections. Additional preventative maintenance options can also be included when required.

Paul credits the success of their maintenance innovation to his highly skilled technical staff. "Initial and continuous factory training fortifies our position to offer an average of 16 years experience across our maintenance engineers to all our customers. This guarantees all owners and operators the highest level of safety and maintenance services." Supplementing this level of experience is unrestricted access to Eurocopter technical support and global experience, as well as interaction with design capabilities that may be required during the course of performing maintenance.

EIPNZ furthermore supports the NZ aviation industry through local engineering and technical support solutions wherever

possible, particularly if this can further reduce timeframes or cost for the customer without jeopardising safety.

Specialised Maintenance Services

A significant range of specialised maintenance services are available from the base at Ardmore.

AS350 series hydraulic system testing can now be accomplished using a ground support hydraulic power unit capable of complete functional testing without the need for ground runs.

EIPNZ are certified to perform all inspection and

repair of EC120B, AS350/5 series and EC130B4 floatation gear and life extension on AS350/5 series floatation bags.

Many customers have experienced the benefits of accurately tuned cabin vibration absorbers. This tuning can easily be undertaken offsite to help keep costs and downtime to a minimum. Not only does

this process ensure a smooth flight, it also reduces direct maintenance costs due to less wear and tear associated with unnecessary vibration levels.

EIPNZ also have an extensive range of special tools and equipment required to perform maintenance at

every inspection interval on all single and light twin-engine Eurocopter helicopters. All of these tools are available for rental and depending on the complexity associated with usage, can be provided with a qualified technician.

For more information

To receive a guide to EIPNZ's specific maintenance concepts and fixed labour prices, or to enquire about specialised maintenance services, contact Paul Marais on 09 296 3601 or 021 998 774, or email: paul.marais@eurocopter.co.nz



Matt Meyer performing post-inspection assembly of an EC120B fenestron.



Tom Anselmi conducting scheduled maintenance on an EC120B Arrius 2F engine.

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