Engineering Support

A recent restructure at the Civil Aviation Authority has made it easier to get answers to your engineering questions.

The CAA's new Airworthiness Unit is an amalgamation of the old Aircraft Certification Unit and the Maintenance Team.

The Manager of Airworthiness, Shaun Johnson, says the restructure will ensure consistency of advice.

"We have a rapidly changing aviation environment and this amalgamation was seen as an opportunity to refocus our resources, and to ensure that we've got some central points of contact for industry."

There are three teams that make up the new Airworthiness Unit.

The Continuing Airworthiness team is led by Warren Hadfield. Its responsibilities include oversight of Part 145 Maintenance Organisations, and Air Transport Operator Maintenance Control Organisations.

It includes a new position, Senior Technical Specialist – Maintenance Programmes, whose role ensures consistency across the CAA.

The Product Certification team, led by Jason Ashworth, takes care of certification of new products (aircraft engines and propellers) and has design change oversight (mods and STCs). Surveillance of Part 146 Aircraft Design Organisations, and Part 148 Aircraft Manufacturing Organisations is also part of the team's brief.

In addition to aircraft registration, the Registration and Airworthiness team, led by David Gill, issues Airworthiness Directives and Certificates of Airworthiness.

Peter Sutherland, the Technical Programme Manager, is also part of the Airworthiness Unit. He manages any new and challenging projects to help ensure the harmonisation of policy and procedures across the organisation.

So, if you want to submit a simple form or application that relates to engineering, email it to **airworthiness@caa.govt.nz.**

For an engineering *query*, email **info@caa.govt.nz** and it will be directed to the relevant person.

For aircraft registration forms and basic registration queries, email **aircraftregistrar@caa.govt.nz.**

For contact information see, www.caa.govt.nz > Public Info > About Us > CAA Structure > Air Transport and Airworthiness. ■

NOTAMs – At Your Nearest App Store

Created by Airways, the IFIS Mobile app offers more convenient access to NOTAMs and weather information for users doing a preflight. It's an extension of the Internet Flight Information (IFIS) Service web site.

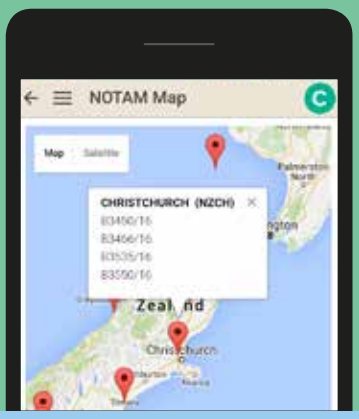
The app provides pilots and RPAS (drones) operators with a graphic depiction of NOTAMs throughout New Zealand.

It also provides weather information, narrowed down to specific briefing areas; it filters information by aerodrome; and automatically sends you NOTAM updates if you use its 'watch' facility.

But remember, the official source for pre-flight information – including NOTAMS – is www.ifis.airways.co.nz.

Weather information is also provided free to New Zealand pilots at metflight.metra.co.nz.

Another source of information about NOTAMs is your instructor at the time of your biennial flight review. See "BFR – Not a Test, but an Opportunity" on page 22. ■



Some RPL Holders **Due Refunds**

The CAA has recently reconsidered its view that the New Zealand Recreational Pilot Licence, and the ICAO-recognised licences – PPL, CPL, and ATPL – be treated as entirely separate types of aviation document.

As a consequence, the CAA intends to refund the fee charged for the issue of an RPL to existing holders of an Airline Transport Pilot Licence or a Commercial Pilot Licence.

Under Rule *61.41 Use of lower pilot licence or rating*, a pilot holding an ATPL or CPL can exercise the privileges of a lesser licence, as long as they also hold a current medical certificate for that lesser licence, and meet the other currency requirements.

In accordance with that rule therefore, anyone the CAA has identified as being incorrectly charged for their Recreational Pilot Licence is to be refunded.

The CAA has already been in contact with the pilots it believes should be refunded the fee charged. If you believe you are also due a refund, but have not been contacted, please email: licensing@caa.govt.nz. ■