

MBJ Airport Ltd. Receives Aerodrome Operator Certification



L-R Lt. Col. Oscar Derby-DDG, RA, Mr. Richard Reed, V.P. of Operators for MJB Airports Limited, Capt. Christopher Kirkcaldy Flight Safety Inspector.

On September 4 2006 Deputy Director General, Regulatory Affairs at the JCAA, Lt. Col Oscar Derby presented the first Aerodrome Operator Certificate (AOC) to Mr. Richard Reed, Vice President of Operations for MJB Airports Limited. The Aerodrome Operator Certificate confirms that the airport operators have fine-tuned their operating procedures and plans as required by the Jamaica Civil Aviation Regulations.

Over the past three years MJB Airports Ltd has moved decisively to put in place the improvements required to comply with the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Annex 14 Aerodrome Standards. These include upgrading of lights on the runways, taxiways and approach areas, extension of the apron to facilitate parking of additional aircraft, replacement of fire trucks and upgrading of training programmes for all employees. The airport operators have also conducted a Risk Analysis of the airport and by November 1, 2006 will put in place a Safety Management System. A survey of the airfield has also been completed and proposals have been submitted to the JCAA to eliminate the hazard caused by birds feeding in the ponds on both sides of the runway.

While working to meet these standards MJB Airports Limited has built a modern terminal with mobile jet bridges and is in the process of upgrading the old terminal facility. Additionally, a new fixed base operation is being constructed, which will enhance the processing of private jets and offer world standard service to the international General Aviation arrivals.

The changes will enhance the safe and secure movement of passengers through the system and will certainly facilitate the smooth throughput of passengers who will be visiting the island during World Cup Cricket 2007.