

TC Update - The Honourable Company of Air Pilots Australia Inc.

Mike Cleaver, Technical & Air Safety Director for the Honourable Company of Air Pilots Australia Inc. reports by email (27 Sep 16):

“This may be of interest to you and other TC members. It begins with a farewell, as our Director of Aviation Safety announced a few weeks ago that he is to retire early, not quite 2 years after being appointed. Whilst this is the official newsletter and so puts a CASA stance on things, and we know that here are still problems (for example, an IT system that has had its failures and the IT people have exaggerated its capabilities and its "state of the art" (not) nature), it does at least show that like the UK CAA it is moving forwards to a more graduated regulatory system. I personally hope - as a former member of staff - that this trend continues.

Our general feeling is that Mark Skidmore has been a breath of fresh air in our regulator and has initiated a measured change in attitude from the regulator. Our concern is that he is departing too early, but the job is a poisoned chalice and he has done well against the odds, and has taken a toll on his personal health. We are close enough to know that he was not pushed out.

Personally, I will continue to encourage him to join our Honourable Company - something we were not successful in whilst he was in office - as we feel he firstly felt some conflict of interest as DAS, and secondly he has a great avenue to contribute further by joining. Mark owns a 1947-vintage Globe Swift which he keeps at Temora (where I live) and is an aviation enthusiast.

Best Regards
Mike Cleaver
Technical & Air Safety Director
HCAPA Inc.”

Reference:

<https://www.casa.gov.au/publications-and-resources/landing-page/casa-briefing>