

**Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies  
Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Program  
Status Report December 14, 2007**

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The Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT) has been establishing an Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Program with the assistance of Rockwell Collins and the Boeing Company. With resources secured through the Industrial Regional Benefits (IRB) Program the SIIT has had the opportunity to pursue a number of major activities that will contribute to the creation and sustainability of the AME Program.

***Project Management***

A Project Manager has been hired to oversee the development of the AME Project. Mr. Don Bradshaw has joined the SIIT team to assist in making the dream a reality. Don is an AME and has over twenty five years experience as a regulator with Transport Canada.

***CAMC High School Program***

SIIT has secured the CAMC High School Program that will help create a pool of interested youth in aircraft maintenance. SIIT will first run the program in Mount Royal School, a west side school that we have partnered with the goal of keeping First Nation students in school. The school (student population of 1500) is comprised of at least 1/3 of First Nation youth.

In order to stimulate interest in the CAMC High School Program as well as market the idea of new high school programming in aircraft maintenance a Robinson R-22 helicopter was secured from Vancouver, British Columbia. It was purchased in early November, at which time our AME Program Manager traveled out to the west coast, disassembled it, and brought it back to Saskatoon. It was recently re-assembled and placed in Mount Royal Collegiate. The helicopter will stir up interest in both the students and our Public School Board partners in the CAMC Aircraft Maintenance Orientation Program. All of the students, teachers, and administrators at the school are very excited about this upcoming program which is scheduled for start-up September 2008.



### ***AME Prep Program***

SIIT has contracted with the former Director of the SIAST Commercial Pilot Training program to assist in the development of the AME diploma prep program. The preparatory program will provide an introduction to the concepts and language of basic aircraft maintenance as well as improve applied math and science skills relevant to the industry. It is anticipated the prep program will be ready in the spring 2008.

### ***AME Diploma Program***

SIIT will work with SAIT (Southern Alberta Institute of Technology) to establish the AME Diploma Program. The parties are in discussion regarding brokering the program for start-up in September 2008. SIIT would like to utilize the SAIT facility for a 2 week element of the AME program pertaining to composite training.

### ***Training Site***

In mid-December, SIIT began advertising to solicit proposals for the provision of hanger and classroom space at the Saskatoon Airport. This generated a great deal of excitement amongst the aviation industry in the Province. Once the proposals are thoroughly examined, we hope to have a temporary location for our AME Prep. Program, as well as for our Approved Training Organization which will deliver the AME Diploma program. Once we have selected a location, we will begin the detailed implementation planning of these two programs.

### ***Funding***

Discussions regarding operational funding will be re-started with Saskatchewan's new government. Given the interests of the Saskatchewan Party in economic development we are very hopeful that a long-term funding arrangement can be achieved quickly. The annual operating budget will be at minimum \$500,000. As well in order to achieve a public private funding arrangement SIIT has also submitted a funding proposal to Western Economic Diversification.

### ***Our IRB Partners***

SIIT would like to acknowledge the support of both Boeing and Rockwell Collins in the establishment of the AME program. We await the go ahead from Industry Canada to announce the contributions of both partners. We are pleased that our relationship with the companies goes beyond a one time investment and is truly in the realm of a long term partnership. SIIT has recently completed an IRB transaction process with Lockheed Martin in association with the sale of the C-130Js. The contribution of Lockheed Martin will significantly advance the public private funding arrangement sought by SIIT. The organization continues to pursue new funding opportunities under the IRB policy.