



PRESS RELEASE

To: The News Editor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JCAA CONTINUES PROVISION OF LIMITED AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES

As at 7:00 a.m., the Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority continued to provide limited Air Traffic Services to facilitate incoming, outbound and over-flights within Jamaica's Flight Information Region, in accordance with the Advisory, which indicated that Flight Services will be provided between the period 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

As we progress with restoration efforts, the JCAA has activated its contingency team, which is currently operating from a temporary Air Traffic Control Facility that was recently installed under the Air Traffic Modernisation Programme as a redundancy feature of the new Thales Air Traffic Management System.

Under the referenced modernisation programme, Jamaica is advanced in the project to implement a new state-of-the-art Air Traffic management environment, which is poised to enhance the safety and efficiency of Jamaica's Air Transport sector.

At the point of the lightning strike, the JCAA's Air Traffic Controllers were undergoing system training on the new facilities and equipment, as a critical component of the ANS Modernisation project. In light of the fact that training is yet to be completed, limited Air Traffic Services are being provided by a contingency team. With full certifications and validations on the use of the new system to be completed, the JCAA is, therefore, only able to provide limited Air Traffic Services to facilitate the continued operation of the airspace, within peak hours.

It is also important to advise that the lightning strike damaged the Air Traffic Management Message Handling System (AMHS), which is the established link for Flight Planning and disseminating Notices to Airmen (NOTAMS). As a result, and in keeping with established cooperative arrangements, the JCAA requested assistance from the Dominican Republic to disseminate the applicable NOTAMS. The AMHS has since been restored.

The JCAA wishes to advise that, while the damage was extensive, several aspects of the technical repair work have been completed. However, the JCAA is awaiting some components, which are being sourced overseas.

Technicians from Aeronautical Telecommunications (AERTOTEL) Ltd. and the JCAA's Communications, Navigation and Surveillance personnel continue to work to enable a full restoration of the Air Traffic System's functionality in the shortest possible time.

The JCAA thanks all stakeholders for their continued patience and support.

Further updates will be provided.

The Jamaica Civil Aviation Authority (JCAA) is the statutory organization, which is responsible for regulating Jamaica's aviation industry and supporting its safe and orderly development.

Contact: Corporate Communications Unit - JCAA
838-2520/ava-marie.ingram@jcaa.gov.jm