

From: WALLY EPTON <wally.epton@gmail.com>  
Subject: Re: Astral Aviation Consulting: Introduction  
Date: 11 July 2021 at 19:44:55 BST  
To: AstralAviationConsulting  
Reply-To: "Epton Captain O W (Wally)"

Dear Chris,

It has taken some time for the HAA Management Committee to review all the information surrounding the change of emphasis made by the CAA from having the GASCo deliver the GA safety message, to appointing Astral Aviation Consulting Ltd as its preferred messenger. The HAA wanted to look at all aspects of this change before responding to your introductory letter announcing the award of your CAA contract.

I should state my personal background for you to understand that I could be biased, but I am not! I have been involved with GASCo for many years. I was first introduced to its work when I sat on their committee as the RAF representative from the Inspectorate of Flight Safety in 1976-78. I knew its founder, John Ward very well and we were in constant touch about GA safety matters when he acted as Chief Executive, even after I had moved abroad to Australia in 1982. (John was an Australian by birth and visited me in Melbourne during my time there.) The bond was firmly established and so it would be no surprise to you to learn of my loyalty to GASCo.

Since those early days I have served on GASCo as the HAA representative and I have always supported the organisation both through the HAA and the BBGA where I currently serve as Chairman of the Operations Working Group and as a Board Member. I shall continue to support GASCo as best I can personally, and as a leader in several GA organisations.

You would not be surprised to have me tell you that within the HAA Management Committee there has been a great deal of passionate debate during our recent meetings over the decision by the CAA to switch its financial support from a well-established GA safety organisation to a start-up company. However the HAA accepts that it is a decision for the CAA alone to make, but of course it is a decision that does affect the HAA as a member company of the GASCo. As a member of GASCo the HAA contributes financially albeit in a small way such as we can afford. Our support is more that of contributing to meetings and discussions together with disseminating the GASCo safety messages from time-to-time. The HAA therefore strongly supports GASCo and will continue to do so. GASCo has made a significant contribution to GA safety and the HAA hopes that will continue.

It should be understood that the HAA will also support any other organisation contributing to flight safety, including your company - Astral Aviation Consulting. The HAA mission is to keep heritage aircraft flying safely. Safety is key to the HAA its members and the public.

In principal, the HAA welcomes any person or entity that contributes to aviation safety, particularly heritage aircraft. Where possible, HAA will co-operate with both GASCo and Astral Aviation Consulting Ltd, and any other relevant aviation safety organisations, within the limits of our resources and our priorities.

The HAA wishes Astral Aviation Consulting Ltd every success in its work with the CAA and the General Aviation Community. Please involve the HAA wherever and whenever you feel we can make a contribution. We look forward to working with you on GA safety matters that concern historic and heritage aviation.

Best regards,

Wally

O W (Wally) Epton FRAeS  
Chairman  
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On 12 Apr 2021, at 20:48, AstralAviationConsulting  
<[astralaviationconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:astralaviationconsulting@gmail.com)> wrote:  
Dear Wally,

I'd like to take the opportunity to introduce my company, Astral Aviation Consulting Ltd. We have recently been awarded a contract to deliver a General Aviation Safety campaign on behalf of the UK Civil Aviation Authority. I thought it was best to reach out to you personally as our campaign begins this month.

The aim of our campaign is to promote GA Safety whilst being as inclusive as possible, regardless of experience, location or any other factor. We

believe that by working together we can really encourage positive discussion, increase GA safety, and engender a just culture with a fresh approach.

We'd love to work collaboratively with you and your organisation members to enable informative discussions within the GA sector. We'd also appreciate your input and thoughts on our safety materials and products, to ensure they are representative of content that benefits all stakeholders within the sector. In such a diverse community we understand this may not be the easiest of tasks to take on, and it would be great to hear your/your stakeholders' feedback as the year progresses, to ensure we're consistently evolving and improving our products.

We'll be conducting numerous interactive panel events throughout the year and would love to have you involved if this is something you'd be interested in. Please feel free to reach out to us at any point, to discuss any collaborative opportunities, to chat through anything you believe may help our collective cause, or just to say 'Hi'.

If you could let us know the best postal address to reach you at, we can send some of our materials throughout the year. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

**Chris Kidd**

Director  
Astral Aviation Consulting Ltd

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