



From the editors desk

We are ecstatic to welcome you to our first official electronic bulletin. This issue is packed with news of what's happening around AMS countrywide. Take a coffee break and savour the news. It seems like ages ago that everyone was talking about 2010; well it's here and it's sure going to be an extraordinary one for AMS. While everyone is looking forward to the soccer World Cup, we at AMS are gearing up to provide an efficient aero-medical support network to all the visitors and football fans. In this issue we announce the latest addition to our fleet, commend our sponsors for their contribution and lots more.

Enjoy!

Venessa .

AMS broadcast feature

Carte Blanche Medical spend a couple of days with our Cape Town team to take a look at our Rescue Service. Carte Blanche Medical is a South African current affairs television series which strives to enlighten and empower viewers about medical and health related issues. Please follow the link to watch the snippet.
<http://beta.mnet.co.za/carteblanche/Article.aspx?Id=3854>

News

The Grand Addition

As part of our fleet replacement programme, the Agusta Grand A109S is the newest addition to the AMS. The Grand is a top of the range light twin helicopter and the latest and most advanced version of the proven twin-turbine Agusta 109. The aircraft is developed as a fast, safe and highly versatile helicopter that provides exceptional performance in all environmental conditions.



All about ...



Lucky Cwaile, a hometown guy from Taung situated in the North West Province, started at AMS in December 2006. Lucky is employed as a Hangar Attendant in Kimberley. When asked "what thrills you about your job" Lucky cheerfully said "I love the experience of working for

AMS". His one wish is to better his education so that he can empower himself.

"I am happy, free spirited, single and always ready for an adventure" said Lucky.

Air Mercy Service for Polokwane

AMS in partnership with the Limpopo Department of Health and Social Development brings the aero-medical service to the community of Polokwane. The base is situated at the Polokwane Gateway. The base operates a Eurocopter EC130 B4 helicopter; the aircraft is equipped with an Advanced Life Support (ALS) medical interior which provides an emergency aero-medical service to the communities. Anyone requiring the medical or rescue service in the province can contact 10177 or 0861 267267.

An evening was hosted by AMS to welcome and acknowledge the role players for their interest in the programme. We look forward to be of service to the community.



Caption: From left to right: Benjamin Halala, Eugene Schreiber (Snr. Flight Paramedic), David Petersen (Rotor Wing Pilot) and Gregg Potter (Rotor Wing Pilot).

Funder News

Our heartfelt thanks to the following Fund's who have donated financially to our organisation:

The Anglo American Chairman's Fund for the donation of R950 000 that will be used towards the purchase of a new Medical Litter Kit for our



emergency aircraft.



The De Beers Fund for the donation of R500 000 that will be used in our Northern Cape and Polokwane bases.

Your donation allows us to continue to bring healthcare to those in need. We pay tribute to you for your ongoing support for the fundamental services that we provide.

Thank You Katanga



A special word of thanks to Katanga Executive Parking Service for their contribution to the organisation. We at AMS are privileged to experience the convenience, professionalism, security and great service that Katanga offers. It is no secret that good parking at Cape Town International Airport is hard to find when you're in a hurry especially during construction taking place for the preparation for the Fifa World Cup 2010.

AMS is grateful for the support and is proud to be associated with the Katanga Executive Parking Service and believe that the relationship will grow from strength to strength.



Caption: From front left to right: Venessa Horn (PRO), Farhaad Haffejee (Service Development Manager), Clarence Rass (Operations manager), Abdul Khan (General Manager), Charlene Mozes (Admin Manager), Dennis Kinnear (Operations Supervisor), Gloria Kinnear (Risk Supervisor), Marcelino Geer (Client Liaison Officer), Leon Du Toit (Customer Relationship Co-coordinator). From back left to right: Bob Fabre (Volunteer Flight Paramedic), Philip Erasmus (Chief Operating Officer), Ashwin Krishna (National Operations Manager), John Stone (AMS CEO)

CT SAPS Airwing

AMS would like to take this opportunity to thank Captain Reuben Hooblall of the SAPS Cape Town Airwing for the loan of their Cargo hook for our rescue helicopter. Captain Hooblall is a fine example of true dedication and commitment to his job. He is certainly an ambassador for the South African Police Service (SAPS) and we commend him on his dedication to the service and the country. This contribution to our organisation and the community of the Western Cape is greatly appreciated as it will go a long way in saving many lives. Many thanks for the support and great partnership that we enjoy with the SAPS Airwing.

Competition

Here's an exciting opportunity for you to contribute in the search of a name for our electronic bulletin.



Send us your ideas to venessa@ams.org.za.

The winner of the winning name will stand a chance to win a mystery prize.

New Tug for KZN



Toyota Forklift proudly sponsored the Durban Base with a generous donation of R28 729 towards the refurbishment of

the Toyota Tug. A special thank you to Myen Naidoo for his efforts in making this possible and for his offer to service the tug at no cost to AMS.

A special thank you to Jan Badenhorst for being instrumental in the refurbishing of the tug and Hayden Ford for the design.

Applause! Applause!

From the sound of wedding bells to the cry of a newborn baby, the AMS family is certainly growing by leaps and bounds. We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Lebogang Manganye (Fixed Wing Pilot) who tied the knot as well as Martin (Fixed Wing Pilot) and Friedel Meyer who gave birth to beautiful Baby Lia. With many blessings and best wishes to you.



Caption: Mr. and Mrs. Lebogang Manganye on their wedding day and Martin Meyer with baby Lia.



Caption: Captain Reuben Hooblall

The 'Stork' delivers baby onboard

On Friday, 5th February 2010 our Richards Bay crew received a primary response call for a breech delivery. On arrival the crew found the patient lying on her side at the Nfeleni Clinic waiting to be transferred to Lower Umfolozi Memorial War Hospital.

Our patient was a mother of two about to give birth to her third child. She did not appear to be in active labour with no apparent contractions, labour pains or having broken her water. The patient was packaged on her side and transferred to the helicopter for a short eight minute flight.

The flight itself was uneventful; however on landing at the hospital, the crew proceeded for shutdown. At this time the patient indicated to Victor Mchunu, Flight Paramedic that she wanted to turn onto her back as she felt movement in the lower pelvis.

She turned over and Victor immediately proceeded to go around opening the doors as the aircraft blades came to a stop only for the patient to tell him the baby was coming. He immediately looked to find the baby "crowning" with an arm and elbow breech presentation. His fellow crew member fetched all the necessary equipment from the boot. The delivery progressed with the patient still in the helicopter. The legs and torso eventually delivered, but the head remained stuck. Time was of the essence due to oxygen deprivation to the baby. Victor rotated the baby and assisted delivery of the head. The entire process took just over five minutes. The cord was quickly clamped and cut.

Mom and baby were taken into hospital for further evaluation and management. The baby girl was discharged home in the care of her mother three days later.



Caption: Victor Mchunu(Flight Paramedic) who delivered the baby.

Staff Movement

Promotions



EJ Swart
Bloemfontein Base
Supervisor



Cornelius Van Eijk
Nelspruit Base Supervisor

Transfers



Nivendren Naidu
PDP Trainee Pilot

From: Kimberley Base to
Durban Base



Jesse Pillay
PDP Trainee Pilot

From: Durban Base to
Kimberley Base

Calendar

CAT Part 138 Orientation:

Oudtshoorn – 3 March 2010

This one day aero medical orientation course is mandatory for all aviation and medical crew who are or intend to fly on AMS aircraft both fixed and rotor wing. Please contact Cheryl Pedersen (Training Manager) for further information with regards to participation.

Surf Training:

Cape Town – 13 March 2010
Oudtshoorn – 7 March 2010

Mountain Training:

Cape Town – 20 February 2010
Oudtshoorn – 6 March 2010

National Diploma Aviation Rescue:

Cape Town - 1 to 12 March 2010

With thanks to some special organisations and individuals for their contribution to our organisation whether in kind or financial.

National:

ACSA
Katanga Executive Parking Service
Cape Jewish Seniors Association
Roger Sedres (Image SA)
Health – e News

Durban:

Toyota Forklift

Cape Town:

Sue Frew
SAPS Airwing

Oudtshoorn:

Francois Gerber

Thoughts...

"Time is more precious than money. It's a non-renewable resource. Once you've spent it badly, it's gone forever."

Neil Fiore

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Keep in touch

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