

Engineer's effort cuts downtime from months to days

CASE STUDY



Bristow's initiative in solving an igniter box issue saved Chevron more than 230 days of downtime.

CHALLENGE: Resolving a mechanical issue that may keep an aircraft grounded for months.

SOLUTION: Extensive research by a dedicated engineer uncovered an alternative solution.

BENEFIT: The client's aircraft was returned to service in six days instead of eight months.

When a Bell 407 aircraft based in Escravos, Nigeria, was declared Aircraft on Ground (AOG) for a replacement igniter box, no one expected to be told that the replacement lead time would be 240 days.

Instead of accepting the eight months of downtime, engineer Juan Olivier took on the challenge of finding an alternative solution. First, Olivier reviewed all three volumes of the Commercial Engine Bulletins (CEBs) held at Escravos. Next he scoured online for the CEBs available from Rolls-Royce until he found the data needed to modify the aircraft to accept a readily available igniter box.

FROM 240 DAYS TO SIX

Locating the parts required and performing the modification took a total of six days, meaning Olivier's initiative and dedication saved the client, Chevron, more than 230 days of downtime.

"Juan's efforts are a prime example of what Target Zero Downtime can mean to our clients," says Alan Grant, Managing Director, Pan African Airlines (Nigeria) Ltd. "In keeping with the company's Just Culture initiative, Juan was presented with a cash reward at a recognition dinner in Lagos."