

BUILDING ON A LEGACY OF SERVICE



Bristow Logistics Services Shetland (BLSS)





Bristow Helicopters Limited has operated in the North Sea for over half a century, and transported oil and gas workers offshore via **Scatsta Airport** for 20 years.

In the past few years, Bristow has responded to client requirements by developing a completely integrated, single transportation solution to substantially reduce the clients' administrative burden and allow them to focus on the strategic activities that bring more value to their business.

Bristow is now launching Bristow Logistics Services Shetland (BLSS): a partnership involving Bristow Helicopters Limited and Eastern Airways to deliver efficient aviation logistics in the northern North Sea sector.

A COST-EFFECTIVE, SAFE SOLUTION

Oil and gas operators reviewed and assessed long-routing helicopter flights. After an extensive risk assessment, many concluded that the preferable option would be fixed-wing flights coupled with shorter helicopter flights, thereby managing risks to an acceptable level.

The restrictions implemented by the Civil Aviation Authority through CAP1145 further confirmed that service via the Shetland Islands would provide the ultimate logistics solution with the greatest passenger experience.

Bristow is the only helicopter operator that can provide service via Scatsta as well as a backup solution with a second Shetland operation. Bristow will contract with new clients on a direct basis, effectively utilizing Scatsta as an airport operating multiple contracts.





FLEXIBILITY

Scatsta Airport is situated on the Shetland Islands and is the most northerly operational airport in the British Isles. The location of the surrounding oil and gas fields presents a logistics challenge, which is why Bristow established its service via Scatsta 20 years ago.

Due to the complexity of the North Sea's rapidly changing weather, flights are sometimes diverted to Sumburgh Airport, which is roughly an hour's drive (49 miles / 79 km) from Scatsta Airport.

Bristow also operates an oil and gas service and a search-and-rescue base at Sumburgh; so there is a synergy between the two Shetland bases that can provide additional support to BLSS.

In the event of a diversion, Bristow's flexibility makes several options available, including the relocation of helicopters to Sumburgh, or the transfer of passengers from Sumburgh to Scatsta or onshore installations.

Bristow teams work together to arrange the most effective solution for passengers and clients.

WHY SCATSTA?

- Better geographical location
- Dedicated terminal
- Greater throughput, lower costs, lower fuel cost, lower landing charges, lower third-party costs
- Greatest operability as it retains an on-island diversion (Sumburgh)
- Comprehensive on-island presence of Sikorsky aircraft, spares and engineering capability
- Superior compliance with CAP1145 than direct helicopter flights from Aberdeen, therefore fewer delays
- Modern Nav Aids Radar Feed / ILS / Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS)



HOW BLSS WORKS

BLSS service transports workers from Aberdeen Airport to the Shetland Islands on fixed-wing aircraft. From there, passengers continue their journeys to nearby onshore destinations such as the Sullom Voe Terminal, which is just 5 miles (8 km) from Scatsta Airport, or they are transported offshore by helicopter to installations in the east, west and southern Shetland basins.

Bristow Helicopters is responsible for the overall management of flying operations and provides a single cost-saving point of contact for helicopter, fixed-wing and airport-management services.

STATE-OF-THE-ART BLSS FACILITIES

Originally developed as RAF Scatsta in the 1940s, Scatsta Airport has been used by Bristow since 1996 to accommodate oil and gas helicopter flights.

The terminal was recently rebuilt and modern navigational aids have been installed, including Instrument Landing Systems (ILS) and National Air Traffic Service (NATS) live screen feeds. These provide greater operational efficiencies by enabling fixed-wing and helicopter flights to arrive and depart more efficiently in marginal weather conditions.

Additional improvements include a new high-tech Air Traffic Control tower. This project was completed in 2015, resulting in a more comfortable and efficient passenger experience through Scatsta.

The terminal provides facilities for arriving passengers to change into their survival suits before travelling by helicopter to offshore installations.

Open plan rest areas, free Wi-Fi, TV facilities, a canteen, and baggage/cargo handling services and security are also provided.

The terminal continues to be reviewed for passenger experience improvements to ensure the best journey possible.

THE BLSS FLEET

Eastern Airways provides chartered fixed-wing flights using modern, climate-controlled SAAB 2000 aircraft. These fuel-efficient and environmentally friendly aircraft are designed to transport 50 passengers in a 2-by-1 seat configuration, with each passenger getting a window or an aisle seat.

Bristow utilizes a fleet of eight Sikorsky S-92 helicopters at Shetland to service offshore installations; six are located at Scatsta Airport. The spacious, airline-configured, stand-up cabin area of the S-92 seats up to 19 passengers in airliner comfort.

Bristow is committed to reviewing the fleet on a biannual basis to assess potential future upgrades for its helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft.





KEY BENEFITS OF FLYING WITH BLSS

- Cost-effective service delivery
- Flexible pricing options, including fixed cost per rotation
- Flight sharing opportunities
- Integrated approach to jointly managing costs during the downturn
- Support of long- or short-term projects
- Guaranteed focus on safety
- Reduced transit time
- Priority departure

BLSS provides a strategic base of operation for the Northern North Sea with full autonomy and the flexibility to plan and respond to changing and challenging environmental weather conditions.

For more information about BLSS, please get in touch.
Call **01224-723151** and ask for the commercial team,
or email **ECRsales@bristowgroup.com**.



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