Explore the opportunities

In an ongoing series on the new Defence Aviation Safety Regulations, FLT lt Barrie Bardoe reveals why the Indonesian Air Force is seizing the moment.

A SERIES of attachments to Air Force involving senior Indonesian Air Force personnel have helped increase mutual understanding of airworthiness issues.

As part of the most recent attachment, LTCOL Ahmed Junaidi has been assessing the new Defence Aviation Safety Regulations (DASR), which align Australia with an emerging European-based global convention on airworthiness.

LTCOL Junaidi’s host is the Directorate General Technical Airworthiness – ADF, and he is taking part in a successful program which is increasing the understanding of safety and airworthiness issues of the two nations.

“I am very happy and grateful for the opportunity to learn about DASR in the RAAF,” LTCOL Junaidi said.

“If the ADF would like to invite us into the global convention on airworthiness, we respectfully thank you for the invitation. We are definitely going to participate at this crucial time.

“The advantages of these new regulations are their global nature, since they are used by many developed countries around the world. This means they can support each other in the aviation world in a truly global sense. For example, repairs, parts procurement, or other system improvements.”

LTCOL Junaidi said attachments such as this were beneficial for fostering a strong working relationship between Australia and Indonesia in regards to military airworthiness issues.

“Our expectations – if these regulations are used by the Indonesian military – are that military cooperation will be stronger, especially in aviation,” he said. “This is because, as we know, the current era of aviation is so advanced; meaning excellent cooperation must be well secured.”

WGCDR Ash Howell, of DGTA-ADF, said he agreed the attachment was mutually beneficial. “DGTA-ADF is encouraging other militaries in our region to explore a European-based regulatory system since the mutual benefits are multiplied with each adopting nation,” he said.

“This is well aligned with the objectives of a Joint Working Group to investigate and improve safety and airworthiness management systems. It’s therefore in our best interest that LTCOL Junaidi gains as much of an understanding of DASR during his attachment as possible, so that he can return to Indonesia as a subject matter expert to help inform the future direction of TNI-AU airworthiness regulations.”

LTCOL Junaidi’s hosts also ensured a good work/life balance during his attachment.

“My personal activity here has been very fun and exciting,” he said. “I really enjoyed the atmosphere and people at DGTA.”

LTCOL Ahmed Junaidi, of the Indonesian Air Force, is visiting Australia to assess the new Defence Aviation Safety Regulations.