



Plan-led process and maintenance control

Client Profile

The UK Military Flight Training System (UKMFTS) is charged by the government to deliver RAF/RN combat-ready pilots from direct entry recruits. Affinity Flying Services are an integral part of the UKMFTS by providing aircraft on the flight line ready for the student programme. Specifically, Affinity manage the through-life maintenance on the initial trainer (Prefect), the basic jet trainer (Texan) and the multi-engine trainer (Phenom). Although a relatively small business, the complexity significantly increases with two regulators, three aircraft types dispersed over three geographically diverse sites.

The Challenge

The entire UKMFTS has come under scrutiny from a recent National Audit Office report, which highlighted the time it is taking to get a combat-ready pilot is averaging 7.6 years against a target of 3.5 years, with an estimated cost of 27.4M to the UK taxpayer. Affinity have recently come under pressure for availability of aircraft on the line ready for service. With a fleet of aircraft less reliable than forecast, a high modification programme and higher than expected casualty rates from student use have added further complexities, leaving the control of maintenance at times stretched.

To meet the increasing demands forecast from March 2020, Affinity recognised they need to systematically improve delivery performance in a cost-competitive manner.

The Solution

Initially EngPro deployed a small expert team to perform some strategic process diagnosis; using our unique diagnostic tool set we were able to identify the two primary issues (planning and control) and provided a phased transformation plan for Affinity to move to a stronger point. We continued to partner the senior leadership team to help inform decisions on organisational structure to help develop stronger maintenance planning and control.

Working with Affinity they extended our initial engagement to help deliver the first two critical phases of the transformation....

“Howard and the EngPro team brought considerable skills and gave us great insight as to the direction and shape of our future maintenance.

They built models and gave us ability to strategize using their help and expertise; and then built dynamic planning and control tools to take forward.

I liked their approach, alongside helping to guide, but keeping us always in control. Great team.”

Grahaeme Colledge, Engineering Delivery Director, Affinity Flying Training Services

For more information call us on +44 (0) 7841 029276

howard@engpro.co.uk



Plan-led process and maintenance control

Consulting engagement

Our expert planning team deployed to site and following mobilisation built models to allow a more strategic perspective of maintenance planning to be performed. This was coupled to building load and capacity models to ensure hanger resources are optimally used all the time. All of this was built within the company IT architecture. The output of this phase gave rise to an increasing forecast availability through effective planning and management.

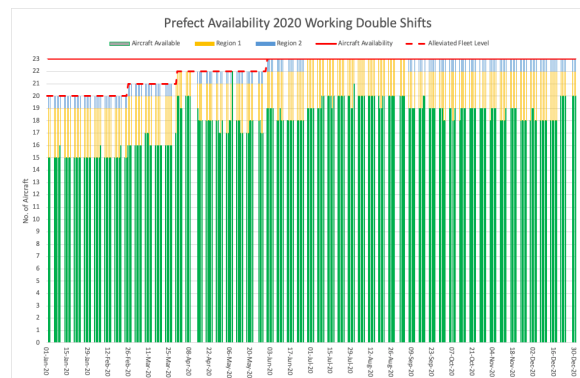
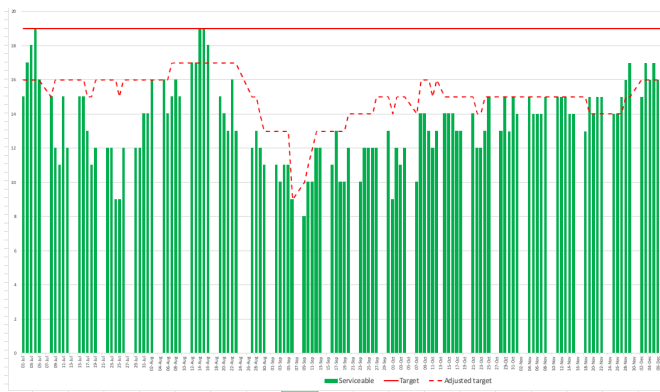
Following this we worked with the team on site to build increased control of the maintenance planning and control cycle; this both built capability and ensured all knowledge was transferred. One aspect we undertook was to develop a review pack that gave management oversight of the process thereby increasing control of maintenance.

We completed the assignment by measuring the success and highlighting where Affinity can continue to grow after we leave site.



Results

The legacy output was twofold; in the immediate future the team had a working plan for each fleet type and system and process internal to the business that allowed increasing control of the maintenance. There was also the phased strategy that allowed the organisation to continuously improve long after we had left site.



For more information call us on +44 (0) 7841 029276

howard@engpro.co.uk