



24 May 2007

52 Air Ambulance Emergency Helicopters missions

Ten days after the Air Ambulance Emergency Helicopters took to the skies 52 missions have been flown.

The new aircraft are based at Bankstown (x2), Wollongong and Orange and missions included 30 responses to incidents such as:

- a patient trapped with arm, leg, and head injuries after a car accident on Princes Highway
- a high speed, head-on collision between two motor vehicles at Springwood Road, Yarramundi
- a person fallen from a motorbike at Long Point near Orange

One incident involved the urgent transfer of a critically ill patient weighing over 150 kgs from a regional centre to Sydney. This mission would not have been possible in the old helicopters and helped give the patient the best chance of a positive outcome.

The Air Ambulance Emergency Helicopter Service provides:

- Standardised fit out and equipment in all helicopters
- Capacity to carry two patients or a patient heavier than 120kgs
- Improved capacity for NSW Health to respond effectively to mass causality incidents
- Improved safety features and greater range, improving access to patients and reducing pressure on regional services

"It has been a busy 10 days with 52 missions undertaken.

"All staff involved in the implementation of the new Air Ambulance Emergency Helicopter Service are to be congratulated on the seamless changeover and continuous service delivery to the community" Mike Willis, General Manager, Operations said.

~ ENDS ~



**Ambulance Service
of New South Wales**

For further information or local media opportunities please contact
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media release

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