



Regional Health Solutions

Presentation to General Practice Divisions Victoria

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Our solution

- Facilitating the provision of supplementary practitioners rural communities
- Enlistment, management and delivery of practitioners to rural communities where a permanent part-time solution is required and where the community:
 - (1) does not require full time practitioners, *or*
 - (2) cannot attract full time practitioners
- Regularly filling identified health care shortfalls contributing to sustainable health care
- Innovative and verified model through which metropolitan health practitioners want to engage

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- We coordinate multi-disciplinary teams (for example, we provide a destination community with a general practitioner, psychiatrist, podiatrist, diabetes educator, and gastroenterologist)
 - At 7.30am, we fly this team from Essendon to the rural community they service and we coordinate ground transport so they are working by 8:30am
 - At the conclusion of the working day, we arrange for practitioners to be transported to the local airport, and fly them to Melbourne so they arrive at 6.30pm
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Benefits of this solution

- **Expanding service capacity**
 - Clinical services
 - **Creating new service options**
 - Efficiently extending metropolitan services
 - **Prevention and early intervention**
 - Increased access to local interventions
 - **Building a skilled workforce**
 - Education and development of workforce
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Benefits

- More rural specialist and allied health services delivered in regions where these services are not currently available
 - Decreased costs in attracting and retaining a rural specialist workforce
 - Reduced rural waiting lists
 - Reduced travel for rural patients
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Our success in engaging workforces

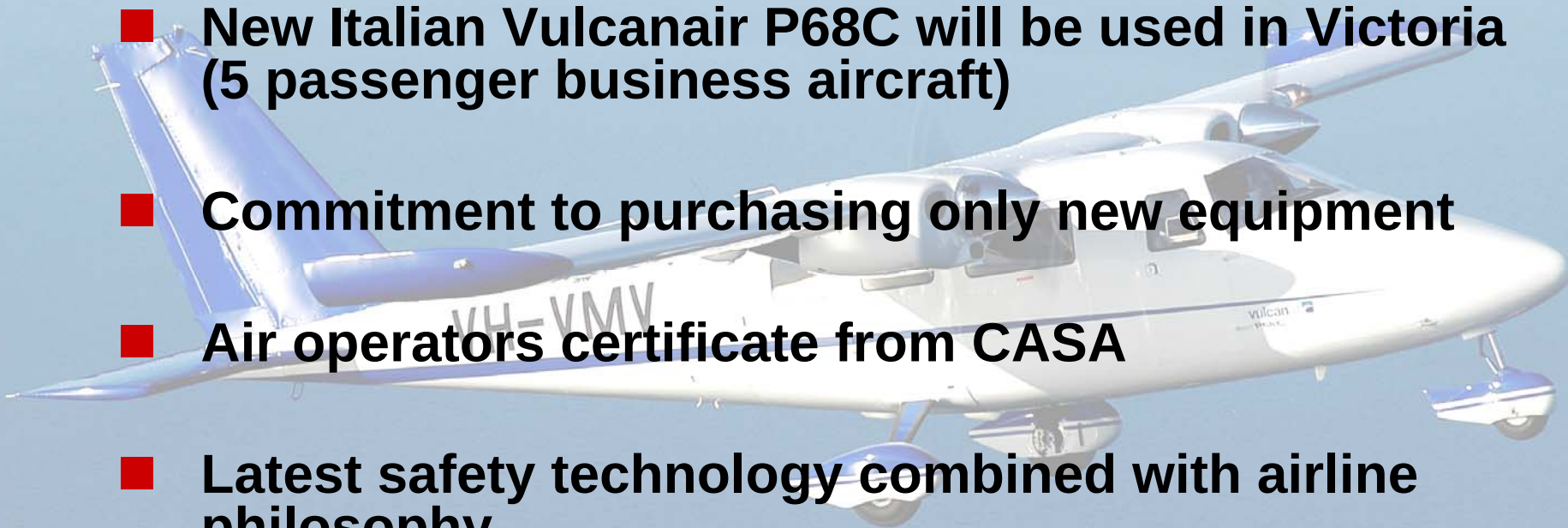
- Most metropolitan health practitioners are not prepared to:
 - travel significant distances by road
 - be away from their family overnight
 - reside permanently in a rural location
- Practitioners provide a day a week, fortnight or month to deliver services via this model

Vulcanair P68C



Quality and Efficiency

- New Italian Vulcanair P68C will be used in Victoria (5 passenger business aircraft)
- Commitment to purchasing only new equipment
- Air operators certificate from CASA
- Latest safety technology combined with airline philosophy
- Efficiency: 300 - 350 road kilometers per hour



Secondary solution

Service from destination communities to Melbourne to assist rural clients and staff effectively access Melbourne facilities for one day

Research conducted and relationships established

- Visits to, and consultation with, key rural centres across Victoria during 2005 and 2006
 - Engagement with Primary Care Partnerships and Divisions of General Practice
 - Enlistment of metropolitan practitioners who want to engage with rural locations via this model
 - Discussions with DHS, DoHA, Dental Health Services Victoria, DVA, VACCHO, Primary Care Partnerships, Departments within DHS, Clinical Schools & Universities, etc.
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Our role

Ascertaining the needs of rural communities in conjunction with health stakeholders

Facilitating and assisting with the enlistment, management and transportation of practitioners

Delivering services on a regular basis, contributing to continuous and sustainable health care



Next steps.....

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