

Night-time and overall safety enhanced for chopper service

The John Villiers Trust has supported the RACQ Capricorn Helicopter Rescue Service through the donation of a computer small enough to be located in the cockpit of the new Sikorsky S76 helicopter.

"We are grateful to the John Villiers Trust for their ongoing support," said executive officer Kay Becker.

"The addition of the Panasonic Toughbook PC will allow the pilots to utilise moving map display technology which identifies where obstacles are in relation to the aircraft, eg high ground, towers, power lines etc.



■ SAFER FLIGHT: Senior base pilot Vince Corcoran trials the new Toughbook PC donated by the John Villiers Trust. cont

"This is especially important when flying in a night environment.

"The PC also allows internet access in remote locations for updating weather

information, including weather radar services.

"On a recent task to Emerald, while the helicopter crew were detained on the ground for two hours, the pilot was able access the latest weather forecast, view radar information and submit a new flight plan, all with the touch of a few buttons.

"We can feel more confident that the pilots have the latest and most up to date information available at the time.

"The Toughbook PC increases efficiency and safety for crew no matter where a task takes them in the region."