



- > Saltspring Air leads the way with new float plane safety modification
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- > Airline becomes first in Canada to install pop-out windows
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- > VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA (September 27, 2010) – Saltspring
- > Air
- > becomes the first Canadian float plane company to install emergency
- > exit
- > pop-out windows in its aircraft.
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- > A lot of attention in 2010 has been given to advances and improvements
- > for Seaplane egress around door latches and pop-out windows to enhance
- > the already strong safety record of the de Havilland DHC-2 Beaver, the
- > workhorse of the West Coast and the seaplane utilised by most
- > commercial
- > operators in B.C.
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- > Saltspring Air is the first airline to commit to the safety
- > modification
- > - and will be upgrading its entire fleet with the emergency pop out

> windows, which provide an alternate exit to the main cabin doors in
> case
> of an emergency.
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> “We pride ourselves on our safety record and are pleased to be able to
> lead the way on this enhancement,” says St. Clair McColl, president of
> Saltspring Air. “With float planes making 130,000 flights a year in
> B.C., safety has always been paramount for the operators and this new
> modification is one that I believe makes a lot of sense.”
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> Saltspring Air has received support from the industry and encouragement
> from Transport Canada.
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> “This modification is based on technology being utilized in off-shore
> helicopter operations, and will be the first of its kind in fixed wing
> aircraft,” said David Curtis, president and CEO of Viking, which owns
> the designs for the de Havilland Legacy fleet. He added, “Viking is
> committed to continuously improving upon the original designs as the
> industry evolves, and to be able to work with operators such as Salt
> Spring Air to put into practice new modifications regarding safety,
> will
> no doubt benefit the entire fleet.”
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> “I commend Saltspring Air on taking a proactive approach and putting
> the
> safety of their passengers first” said The Hon. Gary Lunn, Minister of
> State for Sport and MP for Saanich-Gulf Islands, who was on hand to
> celebrate the occasion. “I also applaud Viking Air for their
> innovation
> in the field. This is another example of the kind of forward thinking
> that sets our area apart, and the great things that are being
> accomplished right here in Saanich-Gulf Islands in the field of air
> transport.”
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> About Saltspring Air
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> Saltspring Air was established in 1995 and has been flying under its
> own
> banner since 2003. The only floatplane company based on Salt Spring
> Island, Saltspring Air has created a thriving business with a fleet of
> four planes, seven pilots and twelve dispatchers and support crew.
> Saltspring Air operates from its head office in Grace Point Square,
> Ganges, Salt Spring Island, with arrival and departure facilities in
> Vancouver, YVR, Maple Bay and now Patricia Bay. Saltspring Air is
> carbon
> neutral. Follow Saltspring Air on Twitter

- > <http://twitter.com/saltspringair>. Company info at www.saltspringair.com
- > Or call 1.877.537.9880
- >
- > About Viking Air
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- > Viking purchased the Type Certificate for the de Havilland legacy fleet
- > of aircraft (DHC-1 through DHC-7), from Bombardier in 2006 and
- > provides
- > OEM support for the worldwide fleet and is part of Westerkirk Capital
- > Inc., a Canadian private investment firm with substantial holdings in
- > the hospitality, aviation and real estate sectors.
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