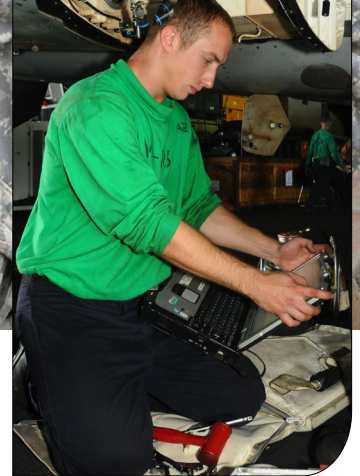


Case Study

Technical Publications

Technology Saves Time and Money



Client:
U.S. Army
Aviation and Missile
Command

Summary of Core Activities:

- The customer requested VT Group's assistance to review and analyze technical publications
- VT Group converted CH-47 technical publications to interactive electronic technical manuals, provided training and streamlined change request process
- We continue to manage system updates

In September 2000, the project manager (PM) for the CH-47 Cargo Helicopter segregated the review and analysis of technical publications supporting the Improved Cargo Helicopter CH-47F from the Low Rate Initial Production (LRIP) contract with the prime vendor. Objectivity, synergism with similar efforts, cost and quality were driving factors in the decision. The PM required the legacy technical publication data to be converted to a digital format for the continuing support of CH-47 D and F model helicopters.

With the previous service provider, the change process for updating the CH-47 technical manual was severely backlogged. In addition, printed manuals were often riddled with handwritten changes and updates, leaving critical technical information subject to interpretation and comprehension.

The majority of source data required for the development of the CH-47F Technical Manuals (TMs) was derived from the existing CH-47D manuals. Armed with accurate source data from the original equipment manufacturer, VT Group had the talent and technical expertise to transition from hard copy publications to interactive electronic technical manuals. Using a comprehensive list of parts and special tools and accurate source data, VT graphic designers, taggers and subject matter experts:

- Revised and converted CH-47D maintenance publications, repair parts special tools lists (RPSTL) and flight manuals to electronic format;
- Updated Depot Maintenance Work

Requirement (DMWR) with existing AMCOM Engineering Directives (MEOs) and Recapitalization analysis MEOs;

- Integrated Engineering Change Proposal (ECP)/subsystem technical publications data;
- Reviewed, developed and distributed Maintenance Work Order (MWO);
- Updated CECOM managed publications supporting the CH-47; and
- Reviewed, verified and managed MH-47E and MH-47G publications

VT Group replaced the 1983 printed CH-47 technical manual with the first electronic manual in September 2002. An updated version of the manuals were produced and distributed to Army units in November 2005. The development of the interactive electronic technical manual (IETM) was an ongoing process started in 2005, with the final product for the CH-47D aircraft delivered April 2007 and the CH-47F aircraft in July 2007. Today, IETMs are being update about every 6 months.

In addition to training our customers on the new system, we streamlined the publication change request process, drastically reducing to time from request submission to deployment of system updates. Now more than a decade later, VT employees still manage system updates. Because of the significant cost savings realized by and quality of the services and products delivered to our customers, we went on to create interactive electronic technical manuals for the CH-47D Extended Range Fuel System (ERFS II).

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