

STATE AIRCRAFT UNIT  
V I C T O R I A**ATTACHMENT 9****Very Large Airtanker Project  
Victoria 2010****VLAT-Project Operations Program****Water Management Plan**

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**General**

The State of Victoria shall arrange for the continuous supply of water for the VLAT Service in addition the State will be responsible for the storage of the water.

At Avalon Airbase there is capacity to store 580,000 litres of water this consists of a Bladder Farm and three Water Cells. The Bladder Farm consists of four 100,000 litre bladders which feed the three Water Cells; each Water Cell has two Pods which hold 30,000 litres each.

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**Filling**

The Bladder Farm can be filled using road tankers which take 2.0 hour turnaround to deliver 28,000litres or there is a hydrant located at the Bladder Farm which can deliver 110,000litres per hour but requires cooperation with Avalon Maintenance Staff to start and stop the main pump.

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**Loading**

Each Water Cell has a pump which can deliver to the retardant mixer or directly to the Aircraft depending on the application. As the Aircraft has three tanks loading can occur using one Water Cell pump and loading hose per tank making the loading quicker.

Once the water has been used from a Water Pod it is replenished by transferring water from the Bladder Farm using a separate pump to fill the appropriate Pod.

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**Vehicles**

No vehicles are to enter the operational area during an operation.

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**Access**

Access to the operational area is limited to operational staff wearing appropriate PPE gear. Visitors are not to enter the operational area unless they are wearing a high visibility vest and are escorted by an approved escort.

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**Safety**

As Avalon Airport is a secure area all none ASIC holders must be escorted at all times. No one is permitted to approach the Aircraft without the appropriate escort.

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## Provisions

Please note: This is a fully operational aircraft on standby for operational purposes. It can become an operational Airbase without notice with all visitors being removed from the area

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## Primary storage

Primary storage will be provided by six (6) 24,000 litre fixed tanks, which will also provide emergency storage of retardant that has been "off loaded".



Series of portable 30,000 litre ISO-containers

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## Secondary storage

Secondary storage (long term) will be provided by four (4) 100,000 litre flexible bladders to supply the Primary storage units and will also allow direct loading of water to the VLAT and or mixed with foam concentrate or SAP.



Bladder Farm shows 4 portable inflatable containers.

The VLAT-Project will be undertaking an aggressive program to utilise recycled water use and to reduce the demand on essential domestic water supplies.

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### **Supplementary storage**

In addition the Operations Program has secured an agreement with Avalon Airport to collect and store surface run off water from the airport infrastructure.



Supplementary storm water retarding basin.

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### **Further information**

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