



INTERCONTINENTAL
AVIATION ACADEMY

FLYIAA JOURNAL

Official Publication of Intercontinental Aviation Academy
Inspiring the Future of Flight
Your Dream FlyIAA

Edition: Vol. 2 / Issue 2
February 2026



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Note from the Global Chairman, Captain Wissam Mehyou	Page: 02
Academy News & Milestones	Page: 03-05
Student Spotlight	Page: 06
Instructor Insights	Page: 07
Flight Science & Innovation	Page: 08
Industry Trends & Global Aviation Outlook	Page: 09
Featured Article	Page: 10
World Aviation News	Page: 11
FlyIAA Course	Page: 12-13
Frequently Asked Question	Page: 14
Video Feature	Page: 15
Upcoming Events & Programs	Page: 16
Resources & Career Opportunities	Page: 17
Quote of the Month	Page: 18



INTERCONTINENTAL
AVIATION ACADEMY

NOTE FROM THE GLOBAL CHAIRMAN CAPTAIN WISSAM MEHYOU



Starting the year by welcoming our first 2026 batch across FlyIAA academies is a powerful reminder of why we do what we do. Each student carries a dream, and we are committed to shaping those dreams with excellence and integrity. We wish you the very best as you begin this exciting journey.

Captain Wissam Mehyou,
Global Chairman, Intercontinental Aviation Academy

ACADEMY NEWS & MILESTONES

IAA Cadet Program

FlyIAA Global

FlyIAA Takes Flight in Al Ain

A new chapter begins as Intercontinental Aviation Academy (**FlyIAA**) officially becomes operational in Al Ain, Abu Dhabi. Launching from a fully private airport with exclusive runway access, this milestone represents more than an expansion; it reflects our commitment to creating an environment where focus, safety, and excellence come first. With uninterrupted flight operations and world-class training conditions, FlyIAA Al Ain sets a new standard for aviation education in the region and reinforces our vision of shaping globally competent pilots from the UAE.



ACADEMY NEWS & MILESTONES

FlyIAA UAE

A New Journey Begins with the January Intake

On January 26, FlyIAA UAE welcomed its latest cohort of aspiring aviators. As these students take their first steps into professional aviation, they join a global community built on discipline, ambition, and shared purpose. This intake marks the beginning of a transformative journey, one that will challenge, inspire, and prepare them for the demands of the skies ahead.

Earlier in the month, FlyIAA also proudly participated in the “Promising Future” Career Fair from January 20 to 22, 2026, held at the Etihad Museum. The event served as a vital platform connecting national talent with leading aviation institutions, offering internship and job opportunities and showcasing clear pathways into the aviation industry. Through direct engagement and mentorship, FlyIAA reaffirmed its commitment to empowering future aviation professionals and supporting the UAE’s vision for talent development.



ACADEMY NEWS & MILESTONES

FlyIAA Lebanon

Training, Outreach, and Renewed Momentum

FlyIAA Lebanon proudly launched its January batch on January 26, continuing its mission to develop the next generation of pilots. Alongside training, the resumption of school visits reflects our ongoing commitment to inspiring young minds and introducing aviation as a tangible, achievable future. Every visit plants a seed, and every new batch brings that vision closer to reality.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Daniel Bejjani Passing his ATPL Exams

Congratulations to Daniel El Bejjani on successfully passing his ATPL exams, a significant milestone on the path to a professional aviation career. We commend your dedication, discipline, and hard work throughout this demanding phase of training.

We also extend our congratulations to all students who successfully passed their official PPL exams. Your achievements reflect your commitment and the strong foundation you are building for the next stages of your aviation journey. Well done to each of you. Keep aiming higher and moving forward with confidence.





INSTRUCTOR INSIGHTS

Instructor Advice: Discipline Before Talent

Study consistently and with purpose. Make notes of anything you don't fully understand and bring those questions to your instructor. Clarifying gaps early is one of the strongest habits a cadet can develop.

You do not need to be a genius to become a professional pilot. What truly matters is self-discipline and the commitment to put in the required study time. Aviation training must become a priority, not something you fit in when it's convenient. Over the years, many capable students have fallen behind not due to lack of ability, but because they underestimated the dedication this path demands.

Think of your training as an investment in yourself. If you were running a business to support your future and your family, you wouldn't decide to stop working simply because you didn't feel like it that day. Pilot training deserves the same level of responsibility and consistency.

Flying an aircraft is not about hand-eye coordination alone that part comes naturally with practice. The real foundation of a successful pilot is built on knowledge, preparation, and discipline. Study with intent, and the confidence in the cockpit will follow.

FLIGHT SCIENCE & INNOVATION

New Lufthansa Group collaboration with Starlink: High-speed internet on all fleets across all airlines

Lufthansa Group announced a partnership with Starlink to equip its entire fleet of around 850 aircraft across all group airlines with high-speed satellite internet, starting in the second half of 2026 and completing by 2029. The service will offer the fastest in-flight connectivity in the industry, enabling streaming and cloud-based work, with free access for status customers and Travel ID users across all classes.

The initiative supports Lufthansa Group's broader investment in premium products and innovation, marking a major upgrade to the passenger experience and making it the largest airline group in Europe to deploy Starlink connectivity fleet-wide.



Source:

newsroom.lufthansagroup.com/en/new-lufthansa-group-collaboration-with-starlink-high-speed-internet-on-all-fleets-across-all-airlines/



INDUSTRY TRENDS & GLOBAL AVIATION OUTLOOK

China Becomes the World's Largest 'Aviation Population' at 5 Billion Travelers

China's cumulative "aviation population" surpassed 5 billion travelers in 2025, making it the largest in the world. This milestone reflects how air travel has become a central part of everyday life, business, and mobility across the country.

The growth has been fueled by major investments in aviation infrastructure, over ¥630 billion (USD 88 billion) during the 14th Five-Year Plan, including new terminals in Chengdu, Qingdao, and Xiamen, and the development of four world-class airport clusters around Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei, the Yangtze River Delta, the Greater Bay Area, and Chengdu-Chongqing.

Today, 93% of prefecture-level cities are within a 90-minute drive of a commercial airport, and China's airlines operate scheduled flights to 90 countries and 263 international destinations, boosting global business connectivity. Analysts anticipate increasing competition in ancillary services such as in-flight Wi-Fi, through-checked baggage, and carbon-offset packages as airlines seek to differentiate in this expanding market.

Source :

visahq.com/news/2026-01-10/cn/china-becomes-the-worlds-largest-aviation-population-at-5-billion-travellers/

FEATURED ARTICLE

Dubai Airport officially overtakes Atlanta in the US as World's Busiest Hub

Dubai International Airport (DXB) has overtaken Atlanta's Hartsfield–Jackson Airport to become the world's busiest airport by seat capacity in January 2026, according to OAG data. DXB recorded 5.5 million scheduled airline seats, compared with Atlanta's 4.9 million, marking a shift after years of Atlanta leading due to its strong domestic network.

The ranking reflects Dubai's continued surge in passenger demand, with record traffic at the end of 2025 and into early 2026. December 2025 was DXB's busiest month ever, and early January saw record-breaking daily passenger numbers exceeding 320,000. The data signals strong airline confidence in Dubai's role as a major global aviation hub, driven by tourism, transit traffic, and expanding airline networks.



Source :

gulfnews.com/business/aviation/dubai-airport-officially-overtakes-atlanta-in-the-u-s-as-worlds-busiest-hub-1.500403383

WORLD AVIATION NEWS

Top 10: The airlines with the biggest fleets in 2026

The global commercial aviation industry has grown rapidly in recent years, driven by more reliable and fuel-efficient aircraft that allow airlines to operate large, diverse fleets across short-haul and long-haul networks. As of December 2025, US carriers dominate fleet size rankings, led by United Airlines, American Airlines, and Delta Air Lines, while major Chinese airlines and key global players like Turkish Airlines and Ryanair also feature prominently.

The rankings highlight different fleet strategies: US network carriers balance large narrowbody and widebody fleets, Southwest and Ryanair rely almost entirely on single-aisle aircraft, and Chinese airlines operate mixed fleets that increasingly include domestically built COMAC jets. Overall, fleet size reflects both airline scale and confidence in long-term demand.



Source:
aerospaceglobalnews.com/news/top-10-the-airlines-with-the-biggest-fleets-in-2026/

FLYIAA **COURSE**

Take Off Toward Your Dream Career with FlyIAA's AB Initio EASA ATPL Modular Program – May 2026 Intake

Have you ever dreamed of becoming a commercial pilot and flying for top international airlines? Now is your chance to turn that dream into reality with FlyIAA's AB Initio EASA ATPL Modular Program. Designed for aspiring pilots with no prior aviation experience, this program takes you from the fundamentals of aviation all the way to a fully qualified commercial pilot with a 'frozen' Airline Transport Pilot License (f-ATPL).

Train Locally, Graduate Globally

Our unique EASA program allows you to begin your training at one of our state-of-the-art local centers—whether in the UAE, Lebanon, Cyprus, Greece, Iraq, or KSA—and then transition to our European training bases to complete your advanced flight and theory training. This modular approach gives you the flexibility to start close to home while benefiting from world-class European aviation standards for your final training.

Comprehensive Curriculum for Professional Growth

Over 96 weeks, you will experience a carefully structured training pathway that ensures both technical excellence and personal development:

FLYIAA COURSE

- Fundamentals of Aviation (FA) – build the essential knowledge base.
- Private Pilot License (PPL) – gain your first hands-on flight experience.
- Structured Hours Building (SHB) – develop your flight hours under expert supervision.
- EASA f-ATPL Ground School – master advanced theory and aviation regulations.
- Commercial Pilot License (CPL)/Multi-Engine IR – achieve the skills required for airline operations.
- Upset Prevention & Recovery Training (UPRT) – learn advanced safety maneuvers.
- Multi-Crew Cooperation (MCC) – prepare for seamless teamwork in professional airline environments.

Every step of this journey is designed in consultation with leading airlines, ensuring that your training aligns with the rigorous demands of the aviation industry.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION

In Which Language Will You Study at Intercontinental Aviation Academy?

At Intercontinental Aviation Academy (IAA), all training is delivered entirely in English, the international language of aviation. From ground school courses to flight training, English is the language of instruction across the academy, ensuring that students are fully prepared for a global aviation career.

Whether you are learning navigation, aircraft systems, or communication procedures, your lessons, materials, and practical exercises are all conducted in English. This focus allows students from around the world to train together seamlessly and ensures they meet the international standards required for professional pilots.

In short, as long as you are proficient in English, you will have everything you need to successfully complete your training at IAA and take the next step toward a career in aviation.



INTERCONTINENTAL
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**VIDEO
FEATURE**





UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS



Induction & Open Day UAE
February 1 – Radisson RED Dubai



Induction & Open Day Lebanon
February 28 – Raouché Arjaan by Rotana



RESOURCES & CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



First Officer
(KSA)



Pilot Cadet
B737 MAX
(UAE)



First Officer
A320 family
(KSA)



Theoretical Knowledge
Instructor
Various Jet Aircraft
(Qatar | Doha)



First Officer
Global Express
(UAE)



Theoretical Knowledge
Instructor
Various Jet Aircraft
(UAE)



Synthetic Flight
Instructor
A320 family
(UAE)

For more information, visit
www.pilotsglobal.com



QUOTE OF THE MONTH



Once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the earth with your eyes turned skywards, for there you have been, and there you will always long to return.

Eddie Rickenbacker



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