



INTERCONTINENTAL
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FLYIAA JOURNAL

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Inspiring the Future of Flight

Your Dream FlyIAA

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Note from the global chairman Captain Wissam Al Mehyou

Whether you are taking your first steps toward a career in aviation or advancing your existing knowledge, the summer months ahead provide valuable time to strengthen your skills, expand your understanding of the industry, and invest in your personal development. Read, train, seek mentorship, and remain engaged with the rapid changes shaping global aviation.

Success in this industry is not built overnight. It is achieved through consistency, preparation, and the willingness to learn every day. The habits you develop today will become the foundation of the professional you will become tomorrow.



Academy news & milestones

FlyIAA Launches New Aviation Podcast Series – FlyIAA On Air

FlyIAA is proud to announce the launch of its new aviation podcast series – FlyIAA On Air, now available on YouTube, providing students and aviation enthusiasts with direct access to industry insights, career guidance, and inspiring conversations with aviation professionals.

Hosted by Alhareth Bin Sama, a professional aviator, flight instructor, and FlyIAA's Head of Student Experience, the podcast aims to bridge the gap between aviation education and industry realities by exploring the journeys, experiences, and perspectives of aviation leaders from around the world.

The launching episode welcomed Captain Wissam Al Mehyou, Founder and Global Chairman of FlyIAA, as the first guest. During the discussion, Captain Al Mehyou shared his personal aviation journey, leadership philosophy, vision for the future of aviation education, and valuable advice for aspiring pilots and aviation professionals.

The podcast serves as an extension of FlyIAA's commitment to student development, offering valuable lessons that go beyond the classroom and providing a platform where future aviation professionals can learn directly from those shaping the industry.

You can [**visit our YouTube channel**](#) and keep up with all our episodes.



Academy news & milestones

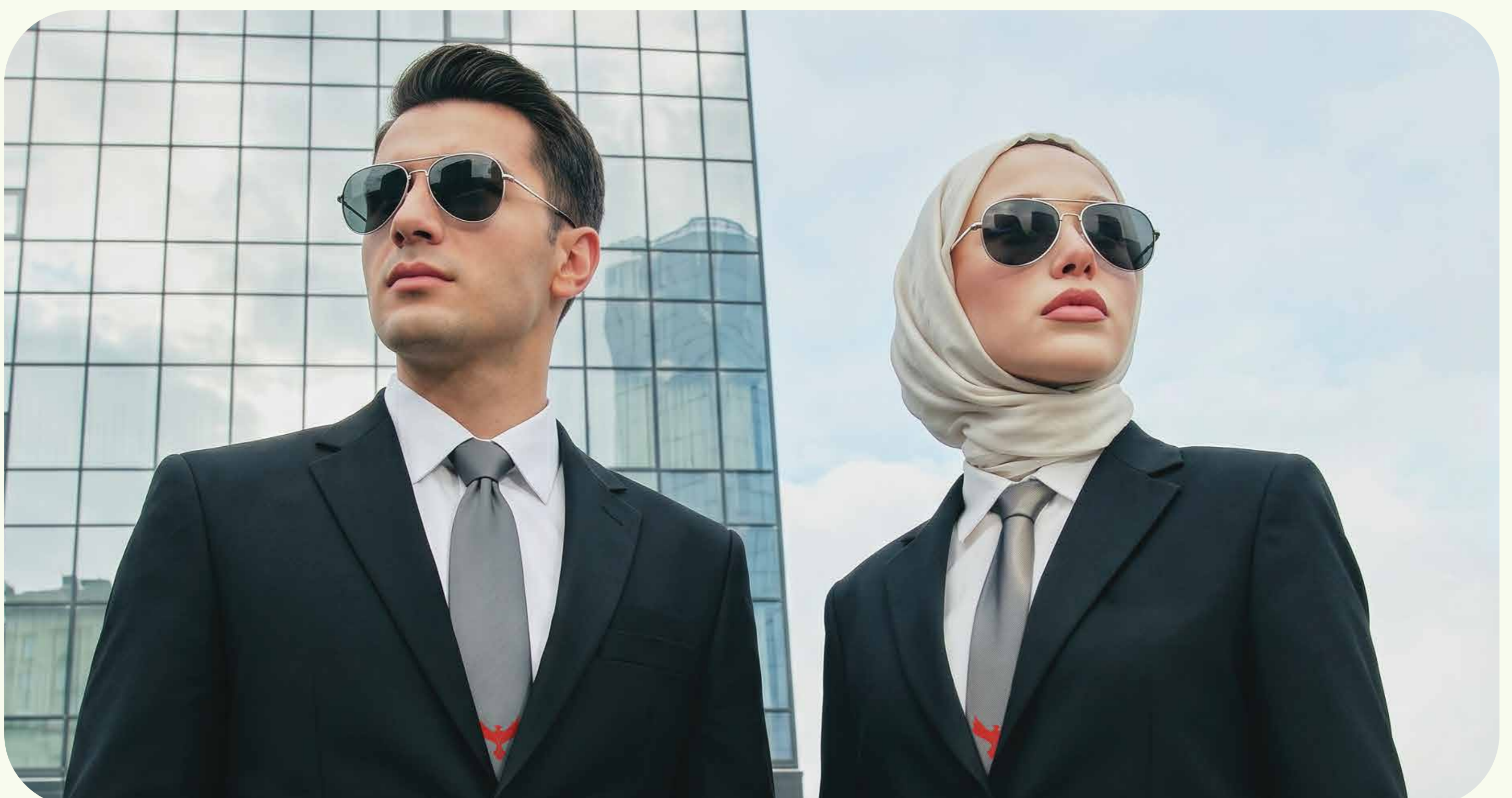
FlyIAA Continues Preparations for Expansion into Syria

As part of its regional growth strategy, FlyIAA continues to make significant progress toward the launch of its operations in Syria, marking an important milestone in the academy's mission to expand access to world-class aviation education across the region.

Preparatory activities are currently underway, with teams working closely on operational planning, academic development, infrastructure readiness, and strategic partnerships to ensure a successful launch. The expansion aims to provide aspiring aviation professionals in Syria with access to internationally recognized training programs and pathways aligned with global industry standards.

The upcoming launch represents more than geographic expansion, reflects FlyIAA's commitment to developing the next generation of aviation talent and supporting the growth of the aviation sector across emerging markets.

Further updates regarding the official launch and program offerings will be shared in the coming months as preparations continue to advance.



Student spotlight

Majd Shamandi Achieves First Solo Flight Milestone

A significant milestone in every pilot's journey is the first solo flight, and this month we proudly celebrate Majd Shamandi for reaching this remarkable achievement. The first solo flight represents far more than a single flight operation. It is a reflection of dedication, discipline, and the successful application of the knowledge and skills developed throughout the early stages of flight training. Taking command of an aircraft alone for the first time is a defining moment that marks a student's transition from guided instruction to independent decision-making in the cockpit.

Congratulations, Majd, on your first solo flight and this important step toward your aviation career.



Student spotlight

Marios Pissourios Earns Private Pilot License (PPL)

We are delighted to recognize Marios Pissourios for successfully earning his Private Pilot License (PPL), a major achievement in the path toward professional pilot training.

Obtaining a PPL is one of the most significant milestones in aviation education. It requires the successful completion of theoretical studies, flight training, navigation exercises, flight tests, and regulatory requirements. The license confirms that a pilot has demonstrated the knowledge, skills, and professionalism necessary to operate an aircraft safely and confidently.

Marios' accomplishment reflects his hard work, perseverance, and dedication throughout the training process. Achieving a Private Pilot License is not only the fulfillment of an important goal but also the foundation for future advanced training, including commercial pilot qualifications and airline career opportunities.

Congratulations, Marios, on earning your Private Pilot License. We wish you continued success and safe skies ahead.



Instructor insights

How Do I Manage Radio Anxiety?

One of the most common questions among beginner pilots is, “How do I overcome radio anxiety?” Often referred to as “mic fright,” this nervousness is completely normal. Nearly every pilot remembers the first time they had to communicate with Air Traffic Control (ATC).

The key to overcoming radio anxiety is understanding that communication is a skill developed through practice, not perfection. Air traffic controllers are there to help ensure safe and efficient operations, and they expect student pilots to be learning. Here are a few techniques that can help build confidence:

Listen Before You Speak

Spend time listening to live ATC frequencies or recorded communications. Becoming familiar with standard phraseology and the rhythm of conversations will make transmissions feel more natural.

Think Before Keying the Microphone

Before pressing the push-to-talk button, mentally organize what you want to say. Keep your message clear, concise, and professional.

Learn Standard Phraseology

Using proper aviation terminology reduces uncertainty and helps make communication more efficient. The more familiar you become with common calls, the more confident you will sound.

Practice on the Ground

Role-playing radio scenarios with instructors or fellow students can significantly reduce anxiety before entering the cockpit. Repetition creates confidence.

Accept That Mistakes Are Part of Learning

Even experienced pilots occasionally miss a call or need a transmission repeated. What matters most is staying calm, asking for clarification when needed, and maintaining situational awareness. Remember, no pilot is born comfortable on the radio. Confidence comes with experience, and every transmission is another step toward becoming a safe and proficient aviator.

Instructor's Advice: Don't strive to sound perfect. Strive to be clear. Confidence on the radio is built one call at a time.

Flight science & Innovation

Boeing 787 Dreamliner: Transforming Long-Haul Aviation Economics

The Boeing 787 Dreamliner has fundamentally reshaped long-haul aviation by replacing the era of large four-engine aircraft with highly efficient twin-engine operations. Since entering commercial service, the aircraft has become a global standard for intercontinental travel, with over 1,200 units delivered and more than one billion passengers carried worldwide.

At the core of its impact is its fuel efficiency, driven by composite materials, advanced aerodynamics, and next-generation engines. Airlines report a 20–25% reduction in fuel consumption per seat mile compared to older wide-body aircraft, significantly lowering operating costs on long-haul routes.

This efficiency has allowed airlines to redesign global route networks. The 787 enables point-to-point ultra-long-haul flights, reducing dependence on traditional hub-and-spoke systems and opening new direct connections between secondary cities and distant markets.

Passenger experience has also improved, with enhanced cabin pressurization, lower cabin altitude, and larger windows contributing to reduced fatigue and improved comfort on long flights.

The aircraft's success has accelerated the retirement of older four-engine jets and reinforced the industry-wide shift toward fuel-efficient twin-engine wide-body aircraft, including competing models such as the Airbus A350.

While operating costs have decreased, airfare trends remain influenced by competition and dynamic pricing strategies, meaning savings are not always directly reflected in ticket prices.

Overall, the Boeing 787 represents a turning point in aviation economics, combining efficiency, range, and passenger comfort to redefine how the world connects through air travel.

Source:

www.nomadlawyer.org/here-s-how-the-boeing-787-dreamliner-permanently-r#google_vignette

Industry trends & global aviation outlook

Nigeria Launches Pilot Training Programme to Strengthen Oil & Gas Aviation Sector

Nigeria has launched a new aviation training initiative aimed at building local expertise for the country's oil and gas industry, marking a significant step in developing indigenous pilot capacity for specialized aviation operations.

The programme, delivered through a partnership between the Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB), Chevron Nigeria Limited, and Bristow Helicopters Nigeria Limited, will train selected Nigerian graduates for careers in offshore aviation support services.

Building a Skilled Aviation Workforce

The initiative is part of a broader human capital development strategy designed to address the growing demand for skilled professionals in the energy and aviation sectors. Only a small group of trainees has been selected for the first cohort, reflecting the highly specialized nature of the programme.

Participants will undergo an 18-month ab-initio pilot training pathway, combining classroom instruction, ground training, and practical flight experience. The course will lead to internationally recognized qualifications, including the Private Pilot License (PPL) and Commercial Pilot License (CPL).

Following initial training, candidates will continue advanced instruction in South Africa, where they will complete additional ratings such as night and instrument flying, as well as aircraft type training.

Industry Collaboration and Objectives

Stakeholders describe the programme as a strategic investment in Nigeria's future aviation and energy workforce. It is designed not only to produce licensed pilots, but also to instil high standards of professionalism, discipline, and operational competence required for offshore oil and gas operations.

Industry trends & global aviation outlook

Industry partners emphasized that the initiative responds to a long-standing shortage of locally trained pilots in specialized aviation roles supporting the energy sector. It also reflects a broader commitment to strengthening local participation in high-skill technical fields.

Bristow Helicopters, which has decades of experience in aviation training, highlighted the programme as part of its ongoing contribution to developing aviation professionals for complex operational environments.

Chevron Nigeria also reaffirmed its focus on human capacity development, noting that investing in people is essential for long-term industry sustainability.

Empowering the Next Generation

For the selected trainees, the programme represents a rare opportunity to enter a highly competitive field. Beneficiaries expressed pride in being part of the initiative and highlighted its role in opening doors for young professionals, including greater representation of women in aviation.

One of the trainees noted that the selection process was merit-based and encouraged more young people, especially women, to pursue careers in specialized aviation disciplines.

A Long-Term Investment in Local Talent

The programme is expected to contribute to Nigeria's broader goal of strengthening local expertise in the oil and gas aviation sector. By combining international-standard training with industry partnerships, the initiative aims to build a pipeline of qualified pilots capable of supporting both domestic and global aviation operations in the energy industry.

Source:

leadership.ng/firms-begin-pilot-training-to-develop-oil-gas-aviation-services/?ut

Featured article

WATS 2026 – The Real Drivers of Training Effectiveness

At WATS 2026, aviation training leaders gathered to explore how modern training systems can better align with technological change, regulatory evolution, and airline operational demands. Across keynote sessions and technical discussions, a clear theme emerged: training effectiveness is no longer defined by volume, but by quality, consistency, and adaptability.

1. Training Must Evolve with Technology

Speakers emphasized that aviation training must keep pace with rapid technological advancement while maintaining safety as its core principle. The focus is shifting toward proficiency-based outcomes, data-driven monitoring, and international collaboration to ensure consistent global standards.

Industry leaders also highlighted the growing need for modernized regulatory frameworks that reflect today's high-tech, immersive learning environments and support better integration of simulation and digital tools.

2. Global Collaboration Drives Progress

A recurring message throughout the event was the importance of cross-industry collaboration. Aligning manufacturers, airlines, and training organizations helps harmonize best practices and ensures that safety remains consistent across all training environments.

Speakers also called for more practical, accessible regulatory structures that can be effectively applied in day-to-day training operations.

3. Standardization Enhances Safety and Efficiency

Sessions from airline training leaders underscored the importance of clear training strategies, instructor alignment, and performance data usage in achieving consistent outcomes.

Standardization was identified as a key driver of safer and more efficient operations, supported by continuous improvement and a willingness to challenge legacy training practices.

Featured article

4. Bridging Training and Airline Readiness

A key focus was the gap between ab initio training and airline expectations. Competency-based training models, scenario-based learning, and structured assessment frameworks were presented as effective solutions to better prepare pilots for operational reality from the outset.

5. Instructor Quality and Training Culture

Multiple sessions highlighted that instructor capability is central to training effectiveness. Structured evaluation systems and standardized assessment methods were presented as essential tools for ensuring consistency in pilot performance evaluation.

In parallel, discussions in the cabin crew stream emphasized the importance of transforming subject matter expertise into structured, competency-based instruction that builds confidence, consistency, and operational readiness.

WATS 2026 reinforced a clear direction for the aviation training industry: the future of effective training depends on standardization, collaboration, instructor excellence, and the intelligent integration of technology. As aviation continues to evolve, training systems must remain agile, data-informed, and aligned with real-world operational demands.

Source:

halldale.com/civil-aviation/5-key-takeaways-wats-2026-day-1-training-effectiveness

World aviation news

Airlines Celebrate the 2026 FIFA World Cup with Special Aircraft Liveries

The 2026 FIFA World Cup, hosted across Canada, the United States, and Mexico, has brought a wave of excitement not only to football fans but also to the global aviation industry. Alongside special team flights, charter operations, and VIP movements, airlines have unveiled a range of special aircraft liveries and commemorative designs to mark the tournament. From full-body repaints to subtle decals, these aircraft highlight how deeply aviation is intertwined with major global sporting events. [A Global Display of Football-Inspired Liveries](#)

Aerolíneas Argentinas

An Airbus A330-200 was decorated with Lionel Messi's iconic number 10 on the tail, three stars symbolizing Argentina's World Cup victories, and additional football-inspired markings across the fuselage and engines.

Air Algérie

A newly delivered Airbus A330-900neo entered service in late May already wearing a special World Cup livery featuring the slogan "One Two Three Viva l'Algérie".

American Airlines (in partnership with Qatar Airways)

A Boeing 737-800 received a dedicated World Cup-themed livery and entered scheduled service ahead of the tournament, highlighting collaboration between carriers during the event.

Avianca

The airline transported the Colombian national team using specially branded aircraft, including both A320neo and Boeing 787 Dreamliner operations across different legs of the journey.

Copa Airlines

A Boeing 737 MAX 8 was painted in a Panamanian national team livery designed through an internal employee competition, featuring a bold red scheme and team crest.

World aviation news

Divi Divi Air

The Curaçao-based carrier painted its Twin Otter aircraft in a special design carrying a motivational message celebrating the national team's World Cup participation.

Iberia

An Airbus A350 featured Spanish national team branding and the slogan "Despega un equipo, vuela un país" ("A team takes off, a country flies"), reflecting the airline's role as an official sponsor.

Qatar Airways

The official airline of the tournament unveiled a Boeing 777 World Cup livery, later used to transport the Qatar national team to the United States.

Royal Air Maroc

A Boeing 787-9 carried the Moroccan national team to the United States, featuring special decals and the message "Go Lions 2026" ahead of their World Cup campaign.

TAP Air Portugal

While not a full repaint, the airline applied commemorative stickers to its Airbus A330, featuring the team emblem and the phrase "It's Portugal time" ahead of departure from Lisbon.

Aviation Meets Global Sport

The 2026 World Cup once again demonstrates the strong connection between aviation and international sporting events. Airlines are not only responsible for transporting teams and supporters but are also actively contributing to the atmosphere of the tournament through creative aircraft liveries that symbolize national pride and global unity. As the tournament continues, these aircraft stand as flying ambassadors of football culture, connecting nations far beyond the stadiums.

Source: flightradar24.com/blog/aviation-news/airlines-celebrate-the-2026-world-cup-with-special-liveries/

FlyIAA course

AB Initio EASA ATPL Modular Program

From First Flight to Airline Cockpit – Your EASA Commercial Pilot Journey

The journey to becoming a commercial pilot begins with a single decision: committing to a structured, professional training pathway that transforms ambition into qualification. The AB Initio EASA ATPL Modular Program is designed precisely for that purpose, guiding aspiring pilots from no prior aviation experience to a fully qualified EASA commercial pilot holding a frozen ATPL (f-ATPL). With a training duration of approximately 96 weeks, this program offers a balanced blend of local training and advanced European flight instruction, allowing students to progress efficiently while maintaining strong academic and practical foundations.

A Global Training Pathway with Local Foundations

The program begins at one of our regional training bases in the UAE, Cyprus, Greece, Iraq, or KSA, where students complete the foundational stages of their aviation education. This approach ensures accessibility while maintaining the highest international training standards.

Students start with the Fundamentals of Aviation (FA), an essential theoretical phase introducing core principles of flight, aviation systems, and operational knowledge. This is followed by the Private Pilot License (PPL) phase, where students take their first steps into hands-on flying.

To maximize efficiency and development, students then progress through Structured Hours Building (SHB), gaining valuable flight experience and confidence before transitioning to advanced European training environments.

FlyIAA course

Transition to EASA-Accredited European Training Bases

After completing the foundational phases locally, students move to our EASA-accredited training bases in Europe, where they enter the advanced stages of their professional pilot education. At this stage, trainees undertake:

- EASA ATPL Ground School
- Commercial Pilot License (CPL) training
- Multi-Engine Instrument Rating (ME-IR)
- Upset Prevention and Recovery Training (UPRT)
- Multi-Crew Cooperation (MCC)

This phase is designed in close collaboration with leading airlines, ensuring that every aspect of training reflects real-world operational standards and expectations.

Integrated Airline-Ready Training Path

The AB Initio pathway follows a structured, integrated approach where students progressively build knowledge, skill, and professionalism. From the initial Fundamentals of Aviation course through to advanced airline preparation, each stage is carefully sequenced to ensure readiness for modern airline environments. By the end of the program, students graduate with a frozen ATPL, positioning them to begin their careers as commercial pilots and pursue opportunities with airlines worldwide.

What You Will Learn

Throughout the program, students will develop competencies across all essential phases of pilot training, including:

- EASA Fundamentals of Aviation
- Private Pilot License (PPL)
- Structured Hours Building (SHB)
- EASA ATPL Ground School
- Commercial Pilot License (CPL)
- Multi-Engine Instrument Rating (ME-IR)
- Upset Prevention and Recovery Training (UPRT)
- Multi-Crew Cooperation (MCC)

FlyIAA course

Entry Requirements

To ensure readiness for the demands of professional pilot training, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Minimum age of 17 years (18 required at the time of CPL Skill Test)
- High school diploma or equivalent qualification
- Basic proficiency in Mathematics and Sciences
- Good command of English
- Hold an EASA Class 1 Medical Certificate (without restrictions)
- Successful completion of the Intercontinental Aviation Academy entrance examinations

Your Career Starts Here

The AB Initio EASA ATPL Modular Program is more than a training course—it is a structured pathway into the global aviation industry. By combining local accessibility with European excellence, it allows students to progress step-by-step toward becoming confident, competent, and airline-ready pilots.

From your first lesson to your final check ride, every stage is designed to prepare you not only for certification, but for a lifelong career in aviation.

Next Intake: September 2026

Begin your journey. Train locally. Graduate globally.

Frequently asked question

How long does the complete pilot training program take from start to finish?

One of the most common questions from aspiring pilots is about the total time required to complete training and reach the point of becoming a commercial pilot. While the journey is structured and clearly defined, the exact duration can vary depending on the training pathway chosen and the individual student's pace of progression.

Average Duration of Training

On average, completing a modular pilot training program takes approximately 24 to 30 months from the start of training to graduation as a qualified commercial pilot with a frozen ATPL (f-ATPL).

This timeframe reflects a full progression through all required phases, including theoretical studies, flight training, licensing milestones, and advanced airline preparation.

Why the Duration Can Vary

Pilot training is not a fixed timeline for every student. Several factors can influence how quickly a trainee progresses through the program:

1. Training Pathway Structure

Different programs may include varying phases, such as local foundational training followed by advanced European-based modules. Each structure can slightly affect overall duration.

2. Student Progression Rate

Every student learns at a different pace. Some may complete flight hours and theory exams more quickly, while others may require additional time to build confidence and proficiency.

3. Scheduling and Availability

Aircraft availability, weather conditions, exam scheduling, and training slot allocation can all influence progression speed.

4. Personal Commitment and Study Time

Consistent study habits and regular training attendance play a major role in maintaining steady progress throughout the program.

Frequently asked question

Modular Training Advantage

The modular route offers flexibility while maintaining a structured pathway. Students progress step-by-step through each licensing stage, allowing them to develop strong foundational skills before advancing to more complex phases of training.

This approach ensures that, although timelines may vary slightly, every student meets the same high standards required by international aviation authorities and airlines.

While the journey typically spans 24 to 30 months, the focus is not only on speed but on quality, safety, and readiness for airline operations. Each stage is designed to ensure that graduates are fully prepared to transition into professional aviation careers with confidence and competence. In aviation, time invested in training is an investment in lifelong safety and success.

Video
feature



Upcoming events & programs



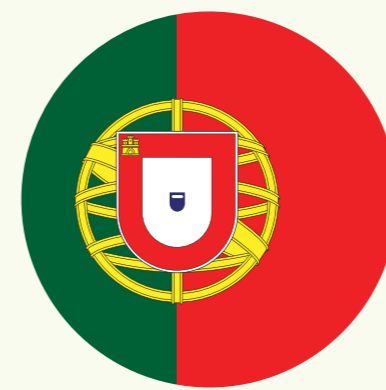
Farnborough International Airshow
England, United Kingdom
July 20-24, 2026



FlyIAA Open Day
Rise Boutique Hotel Larnaca, Cyprus
July 7, 2026



FlyIAA Open Day
Intercontinental Dubai Festival City,
UAE
July 12, 2026



FlyIAA Open Day
Eurostars Hotel, Lisbon, Portugal
July 23, 2026



FlyIAA Open Day
Porto, Portugal
July 24, 2026



FlyIAA Open Day
Rotana Arjan Hotel Beirut, Lebanon
July 24, 2026

Resources & career opportunities



First Officer B737
(Dubai | UAE)



First Officer Legacy Praetor
EMB-550
(Lebanon | Beirut)



Pilot Cadet
B737 MAX
(Dubai | UAE)



Captain
A320 family
(Egypt | Cairo)



Flight Instructor
SR-20/22
(UAE | Dubai)



Pilot Cadet
AC on Seniority
(Saudi Arabia | Riyadh)



First Officer
Dash 8
(Abu Dhabi | UAE)



First Officer
Global Express
(Dubai | UAE)

Quote of
the month

**“No one can realize how
substantial the air is until he feels
its supporting power beneath him.
It inspires confidence at once”**

Otto Lilienthal



FlyIAA July Journal

READY TO FLY?

Start your aviation career today.
Contact IAA!

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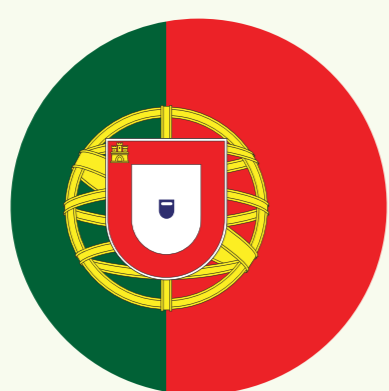
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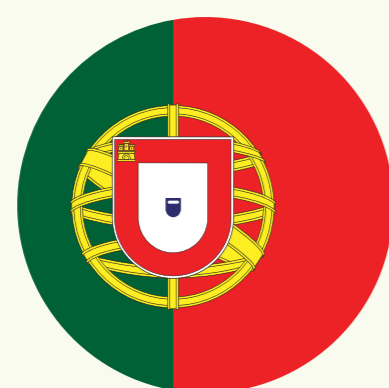
Upcoming events & programs



FlyIAA Open Day
Faro, Algarve, Portugal
July 25, 2026



FlyIAA Open Day
Golden Mazzeh Damascus, Syria
July 26, 2026



FlyIAA Open Day
Grand Hotel Açores Atlântico,
Ponta Delgada, Portugal
July 30, 2026