



INTERCONTINENTAL
AVIATION ACADEMY

FLYIAA JOURNAL

Official Publication of Intercontinental Aviation Academy
Inspiring the Future of Flight

Your Dream FlyIAA



Edition: Vol. 2 / Issue 5
May 2026

Table of Contents

- 03** Note from the global chairman, Captain Wissam Al Mehyou
- 04** Academy news & milestones
- 07** Student spotlight
- 09** Instructor insights
- 10** Flight science & innovation
- 13** Industry trends & global aviation outlook
- 14** Featured article
- 17** World aviation news
- 19** FlyIAA course
- 20** FAQ
- 21** Video feature
- 22** Upcoming events & programs
- 23** Resources & career opportunities
- 24** Quote of the month

Note from the global chairman Captain Wissam Al Mehyou

At FlyIAA, our greatest pride lies in our students, their dedication, discipline, and commitment to excellence continue to inspire us every day. Watching them grow, both in skill and confidence, is a true reflection of the values we stand for as an academy.

As we approach our May intake, we are excited to welcome a new generation of aspiring pilots across our academies. Each new student brings ambition and potential, and we are honored to be part of their journey into aviation.

At the same time, it is equally rewarding to see our current students progress to the next level of their training, advancing closer to their professional goals with every milestone achieved.

The journey in aviation is one of continuous growth, and at FlyIAA, we are proud to support every step of that journey.



Academy news & milestones

Intercontinental Aviation Academy strengthens training with ALSIM simulator

FlyIAA continues to elevate its training standards with the addition of the ALSIM AL40/42 simulator in Dubai. The advanced system replicates both the Diamond DA40 and DA42 cockpits and allows seamless switching between configurations, giving students a highly flexible and realistic training experience.

Fully compliant with EASA, FAA, and Transport Canada standards, the simulator supports PPL, CPL, and IR/ME training at an international level.

This investment reflects FlyIAA's ongoing commitment to innovation, excellence, and preparing future pilots with the most modern and effective tools available in aviation training.



Academy news & milestones

FlyIAA Launches Student Kit to Enhance Training Experience

FlyIAA has officially launched its new FlyIAA Student Kit, designed to support cadets from their very first day of training and strengthen their overall flight academy experience.

The kit reflects FlyIAA's commitment to combining professionalism, practicality, and identity in pilot training. Each student receives a fully prepared aviation package upon joining the academy, ensuring they are equipped with essential tools for both ground and flight phases of training.

The FlyIAA Kit includes a carefully selected set of items tailored to student pilots, featuring an aviation headset, water bottle, pouch, notebook, pen, aviation garment, and a pilot watch. All items are delivered together in a premium cabin-style travel bag, making it both functional and travel-ready for cadets moving between training bases and flight operations.

Beyond its practical use, the kit is also designed to build a sense of belonging and professionalism among students, reinforcing FlyIAA's culture of discipline, readiness, and aviation identity from day one.

With this initiative, FlyIAA continues to enhance the student journey by not only focusing on training quality, but also on creating a complete and immersive aviation environment that prepares cadets for real-world airline standards.



Academy news & milestones

FlyIAA at AERO Friedrichshafen 2026

FlyIAA, alongside Intercontinental Aviation Enterprise, participated in AERO Friedrichshafen, one of the world's leading exhibitions for general aviation.

The event brought together key players from across the aviation industry, including manufacturers, training organizations, and technology providers. FlyIAA and its partners used the platform to engage with global stakeholders, explore the latest innovations in pilot training, and strengthen strategic partnerships.

Participation in AERO Friedrichshafen reflects FlyIAA's ongoing commitment to staying at the forefront of aviation developments while continuously enhancing the quality and relevance of its training programs.



Student spotlight

We are proud to highlight the achievement of Karim Chamas and Dimitri Abboud, who have successfully completed their UPRT (Upset Prevention and Recovery Training) as well as their MCC/JOC (Multi-Crew Cooperation / Jet Orientation Course).

With the completion of these advanced training phases, both students have now reached a significant milestone in their aviation journey, becoming fully qualified ATPL (EASA) pilots. This achievement reflects not only their technical proficiency, but also their discipline, resilience, and commitment throughout a demanding training path.

UPRT and MCC/JOC training represent critical steps in preparing pilots for real-world airline operations, focusing on advanced aircraft handling, crew coordination, decision-making, and safety under high-pressure scenarios. Successfully completing these stages demonstrates their readiness to transition from training into professional airline environments.

At FlyIAA, we take pride in seeing our students progress through each stage of their development and reach such important benchmarks. Karim and Dimitri's success is a strong reflection of their hard work and the high standards they have upheld throughout their training.

As they now move forward to the next stage: Type Rating! We wish them continued success as they prepare to take the final steps toward entering the airline industry as professional pilots.



Student spotlight

Wael Al Chami's First Solo

Wael Al Chami recently achieved a major milestone in his journey to becoming a pilot—his very first solo flight! After countless hours of training, practice, and mastering the fundamentals of aviation, Wael took to the skies on his own for the first time, marking a moment of skill, courage, and dedication.

Wael's achievement not only reflects his personal commitment but also embodies the spirit of determination that inspires everyone at our flight school.

Congratulations, Wael! Your first solo is the first of many remarkable milestones in your aviation journey, and we can't wait to see where your wings take you next.



Instructor insights

Patience is Key in Training

Flight training is a journey that requires persistence and resilience. Progress may not always feel immediate, and it's normal for students to experience plateaus along the way. These moments are temporary and often precede significant improvement. Trust the process, stay consistent, and remember that mastery takes time.

Invest in the Right Equipment

Having the right gear can make a meaningful difference in your training experience. A high-quality aviation headset, in particular, is a long-term investment. Since it will be used extensively throughout your training and career, prioritizing comfort, durability, and sound clarity is essential.

Flight science & Innovation

Best Aviation Headsets for 2026: A Pilot's Guide to Comfort and Clarity

Aviation headsets are an essential part of any pilot's flight gear. Beyond simply reducing cockpit noise, a high-quality headset improves communication clarity, reduces fatigue, and enhances overall comfort—especially on long flights.

Modern aviation headsets increasingly feature advanced active noise reduction (ANR) technology, Bluetooth connectivity, and improved ergonomic designs, making them more efficient and comfortable than ever before. Below is a breakdown of some of the top aviation headsets for 2026 and what makes them stand out.

Why a Good Aviation Headset Matters

Flying in piston, turboprop, or helicopter cockpits can be extremely noisy. A reliable headset helps pilots stay focused by minimizing background noise and improving radio communication clarity.

Most premium headsets from leading brands such as Bose, David Clark, and Lightspeed combine strong ANR performance with durability and comfort, making them popular choices among both student and professional pilots.

Top Aviation Headsets for 2026

Bose A30 – Best Overall Sound Quality

The Bose A30 is widely recognized for its premium audio performance and comfort. It offers excellent noise reduction, lightweight design improvements over previous models, and multiple connectivity options, including Bluetooth. It is designed for long-haul flying where comfort and clarity are essential.

David Clark One-X – Best Hybrid Noise Cancellation

The David Clark One-X combines durability with modern hybrid noise cancellation technology. It is compact, foldable, and designed for easy storage, making it a strong choice for pilots who value practicality and reliability.

Flight science & Innovation

David Clark Pro-X2 – Best Value Option

Also from David Clark, the Pro-X2 offers ultra-lightweight comfort with strong ANR performance. It is designed to reduce head pressure during long flights while still maintaining excellent noise reduction.

Lightspeed Sierra – Best Feature Flexibility

The Lightspeed Aviation Sierra headset provides strong value with Bluetooth connectivity, comfortable ear seals, and flexible microphone positioning. It is a practical choice for student and general aviation pilots.

Lightspeed Zulu 4 – Best Lightweight Premium Option

The Zulu 4 improves on earlier models with better ergonomics, dual Bluetooth connectivity, and a lightweight design. It is designed for pilots who want advanced features without added bulk.

Faro and Budget Options

Brands like FARO offer more affordable headsets with solid performance and modern designs. These are often chosen by student pilots or those looking for backup equipment without the premium price tag.

At the lower end of the market, passive headsets such as the Rugged Air RA200 provide basic functionality at a very low cost, making them suitable for early training stages.

Flight science & Innovation

Choosing the Right Headset

When selecting an aviation headset, pilots should consider:

- Noise reduction quality (ANR vs passive)
- Comfort during long flights
- Durability and build quality
- Battery life and power options
- Connectivity features such as Bluetooth
- Weight and head pressure

Investing in a high-quality headset is often considered one of the most important gear decisions a pilot can make.

Aviation headsets are more than just equipment—they are a key part of pilot safety and performance. Whether choosing a premium ANR model or a budget-friendly option, the right headset can significantly improve the flying experience.

As technology continues to evolve, modern headsets are becoming lighter, smarter, and more connected, supporting pilots in every stage of their journey—from training flights to professional operations.

Source: flyingmag.com/best-noise-reduction-headphones/

Industry trends & global aviation outlook

China Airlines Expands Smart Baggage Tracking with Google Find Hub

China Airlines has taken another step forward in its digital transformation journey with the introduction of Google Find Hub luggage tracking, becoming the first airline in Taiwan to offer the service.

This new feature allows passengers to place a compatible smart tracking device inside their checked baggage and monitor its location in real time throughout their journey. From airport check-in to transfers and final arrival, travelers can stay updated on where their luggage is at any given stage.

In cases where baggage is delayed or misplaced, passengers can also generate a secure, private sharing link through the Find Hub app. This link can be shared directly with the airline to assist in faster and more efficient recovery. Once the luggage is located, the shared link automatically deactivates, ensuring full privacy protection for the traveler.

With this latest addition, China Airlines now supports both Apple AirTag and Google Find Hub systems, making its baggage tracking services accessible to both iOS and Android users. The integration reflects the airline's broader commitment to enhancing the passenger experience through smart technology, convenience, and reliability.

Over recent years, China Airlines has steadily invested in digital innovation, introducing tools such as its AI Customer Service Agent, mobile app services, and in-flight digital platforms. The addition of Find Hub further strengthens its vision of offering a more connected, transparent, and stress-free travel experience for its passengers worldwide.

Source: asianaviation.com/china-airlines-adds-google-find-hub-for-bags/

Featured article

Why Stalling Is Every Pilot's Worst Nightmare

Stalls are one of the most critical and feared situations in aviation training. For many pilots, they represent the moment where theory, instinct, and real-world reaction all collide. One Air Force veteran recalls how early flight training shaped his understanding of stalls—and why those lessons stayed with him for life.

Early Flight Training and First Impressions

During his service in the Vietnam era, the author worked as an electronics engineer in the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida. Although he was regularly exposed to a variety of military aircraft during test flights, he was not selected for formal fighter pilot training due to vision limitations. Instead, he joined a local flying club operating a Cessna 150 to pursue pilot training.

His instructor, Major Auger, placed strong emphasis on stall awareness and avoidance from the very beginning. Training flights often included simulated engine failures, forcing the student to think quickly about forced landings while maintaining control of the aircraft. The instructor frequently reinforced the idea that stall prevention should always be the pilot's first priority.

Learning Stall Behavior the hard way

During training exercises, the instructor demonstrated how a properly managed aircraft would “mush” forward at full power instead of cleanly stalling. However, when the student attempted to replicate these conditions alone, the aircraft did not behave as expected.

At higher altitude, he attempted to deliberately induce a stall. The aircraft initially remained stable, but eventually the airflow reduced significantly, and control feedback changed dramatically. Without warning, the aircraft entered a violent spin.

Having only been briefed theoretically on spin recovery, the student reacted using rudder input as previously instructed, managing to stop the rotation. However, recovery from the resulting dive proved more challenging, with delayed aircraft response and significant loss of altitude before regaining control.

Featured article

The experience reinforced an important lesson: incorrect control inputs during or after a stall can significantly increase risk, especially in less forgiving aircraft.

Lessons Carried into Advanced Flying

After earning his private pilot certificate, the author transitioned to flying Piper PA-18 Super Cubs. These aircraft offered more performance and agility compared to the Cessna 150, allowing for more advanced training such as crosswind landings and operations in busier airspace.

Flying from Eglin Air Force Base added another layer of complexity, as general aviation aircraft shared airspace with large military jets, including B-52 bombers. Strict sequencing and traffic control required constant situational awareness.

On one occasion, wake turbulence from a departing B-52 caused a sudden upset shortly after takeoff in a Super Cub. The aircraft rolled unexpectedly, but instinctive recovery actions quickly restored control within seconds. The experience reinforced the importance of immediate and correct reactions during unexpected flight disturbances.

Key Takeaways for Pilots

The author reflects on several enduring lessons learned through these experiences:

- Stalls and unusual attitudes demand respect and understanding
- Initial instinct matters—pitch control is critical in emergencies
- Recovery techniques must be practiced, not just memorized
- Exposure to real spin and stall scenarios improves readiness significantly

Featured article

He also suggests that student pilots benefit greatly from structured demonstrations of spins, stalls, and unusual attitudes early in training, as real-world experience builds confidence and improves safety.

Stalls are not just a technical maneuver—they are a fundamental test of a pilot's discipline and reaction under pressure. With proper training, awareness, and practice, they become manageable. Without them, they can quickly become dangerous.

For this Air Force veteran, those early lessons in a simple training aircraft shaped a lifelong respect for the importance of stall awareness—and the critical value of correct instinct in aviation.

Source: flyingmag.com/why-stalling-is-every-pilots-worst-nightmare/

World aviation news

AERO Friedrichshafen 2026: Where the Future of Aviation Comes Together

AERO Friedrichshafen once again confirmed its status as one of the most important meeting points for general aviation in Europe. Held from April 22 to 25, 2026, the event's 32nd edition was record-breaking, welcoming around 37,000 visitors from 88 countries and 860 exhibitors from 50 nations. With more than half of participants coming from outside Germany, the exhibition highlighted its growing global reach and influence within the aviation industry.

Beyond the impressive numbers, AERO stands out for the unique experience it offers. It brings together a remarkably diverse audience—students, pilots, industry professionals, and aviation enthusiasts—all connected by a shared curiosity and passion for flight. While the event serves as a key commercial platform for manufacturers and suppliers to present aircraft, avionics, and aviation solutions, it is equally valued for its accessibility. Visitors are encouraged to explore, engage, and learn, making it an environment where knowledge is shared as freely as products are showcased.

Throughout the exhibition halls, networking happens naturally. Conversations between pilots, engineers, and aviation professionals are constant, often leading to valuable exchanges of insights and experiences. Attendees can step inside aircraft, interact directly with manufacturers, and compare different models firsthand, turning the visit into a truly immersive aviation experience.

This year, business aviation played a particularly prominent role, with an expanded presence and a wide range of aircraft on display. From long-range business jets to light aircraft, turboprops, helicopters, and ultralights, the diversity reflected the full scope of modern aviation. New aircraft presentations and advanced onboard technologies demonstrated how quickly the industry continues to evolve, particularly in areas such as safety systems and cockpit innovation.

World aviation news

Sustainability was another key focus, with dedicated areas showcasing electric and hybrid aircraft, hydrogen propulsion concepts, and airport energy solutions. These developments highlighted a clear industry shift toward more environmentally responsible aviation, without compromising performance or growth.

At the same time, the event emphasized the importance of people in aviation's future. Through initiatives like Career Days, aspiring professionals had the opportunity to connect with industry leaders, explore career paths, and better understand the opportunities within a rapidly changing sector.

AERO is not limited to exhibition halls alone. The outdoor aircraft displays and live demonstrations add another dimension to the experience, creating an environment where aviation is not only seen but truly felt. For many attendees, the event becomes more than a visit—it is a reminder of the scale, diversity, and excitement of the aviation world.

As AERO continues to expand globally, it reinforces its role as a platform where innovation, business, and passion come together. For anyone attending, one conclusion remains the same: experiencing AERO is never fully complete in just one day.

Source: avioradar.net/en/photo-report-aero-friedrichshafen-2026/

FlyIAA course

Take the Next Step: FlyIAA Type Rating Program

For aspiring airline pilots, completing ATPL training is a major milestone, but the journey doesn't stop there. The next critical step toward the flight deck is obtaining a Type Rating, and at FlyIAA, this transition is designed to be seamless, professional, and aligned with real-world airline operations.

With the next intake starting in May 2026, FlyIAA's Type Rating Program offers an intensive 8-week training experience based at our Sharjah campus in the UAE. The course combines advanced simulator sessions with structured classroom instruction, all delivered in compliance with EASA and GCAA standards.

Students train on certified Airbus and Boeing simulators, including the Airbus A320 family and Boeing 737 variants, gaining hands-on experience in both normal and non-normal flight scenarios. The program also integrates Multi-Crew Cooperation (MCC), allowing trainees to develop the communication, coordination, and decision-making skills required in a professional cockpit environment.

Beyond technical knowledge, the course emphasizes airline-standard operating procedures, preparing pilots to confidently transition into commercial operations. Supported by experienced instructors, modern facilities, and 24/7 guidance, students graduate with the skills, mindset, and readiness expected by today's aviation industry.

FlyIAA's Type Rating program is more than a certification. It is the bridge between training and a professional flying career. For those ready to take that next step, the skies are closer than ever.

Frequently asked question

Do I need any prior flight experience to enroll in the Ab Initio program?

No prior flight experience is required to join FlyIAA's Ab Initio program. The course is specifically designed to take students from their very first steps in aviation all the way to full commercial pilot certification. Every aspect of the training, from theory to hands-on flight lessons, is structured to guide beginners through the learning process safely and effectively.

Whether you've never been in a cockpit or only have a passion for flying, the Ab Initio program provides all the tools, instruction, and support needed to develop the skills and knowledge of a professional pilot. Our instructors are experienced in teaching students at all levels, ensuring that every student builds confidence, competence, and readiness for a career in aviation.

Video
feature



Upcoming events & programs



Open Day and Induction Day
Radisson Red, UAE
May 3, 2026



Airport Show
Dubai DWTC, UAE
May 12-14, 2026



Open Day Madeira
1700-2000 Melia
Madeira Hotel, Portugal
May 6, 2026



May Intake
May 25, 2026

Resources & career opportunities



First Officer A320
(Jordan | Amman)



Pilot Cadet
B737 MAX
(Dubai | UAE)



Direct Entry First Officer
A320 family
(Bahrain | Bahrain)



Captain A320
(Egypt | Cairo)



First Officer
Dash 8
(Abu Dhabi | UAE)



First Officer Learjet
LR-60
(Saudi Arabia | Riyadh)



Pilot Cadet
AC on Seniority
(Saudi Arabia | Riyadh)

Quote of
the month

“Aviation is proof that given the will, we have the capacity to achieve the impossible.”

Eddie Rickenbacker



FlyIAA May Journal

READY TO FLY?

Start your aviation career today.
Contact IAA!

UAE (HQ) +971 55 747 2466

Cyprus +357 96 83 89 99

Lebanon +961 76 03 03 33

Iraq +964 78 86 45 09 11

Web www.flyiaa.aero

Instagram

@flyiaa.global | @flyiaa.uae | @flyiaa.levant

@flyiaa.greece | @flyiaa.iraq