



INTERCONTINENTAL
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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

Aviation does not simply move people from one place to another; it moves industries, economies, and generations forward.

Our responsibility is to ensure that those who will shape its future are equipped not only with the skills to fly, but with the discipline, knowledge, and vision to lead.



Academy news & milestones

October has been a month of continued growth and new beginnings for FlyIAA, with important milestones across the UAE, Iraq, Lebanon and Syria. From welcoming new students to expanding our operational infrastructure, each development reflects FlyIAA's growing regional presence and commitment to making professional aviation training more accessible.



Academy news & milestones

FlyIAA UAE: Strengthening Our Training Infrastructure

A major operational milestone was also achieved in Al Ain, where FlyIAA welcomed its first aircraft at the newly opened hangar. This marks the beginning of the rollout of a 10-aircraft UAE training fleet, strengthening the academy's flight training capacity and supporting its continued expansion. The airplane was welcomed by FlyIAA students and proceeded to tour the new hangar.

The UAE continued to be at the heart of FlyIAA's activity this month, with an Induction Day, inducting 21 new students, and Open Day welcoming aspiring aviators and new students into the FlyIAA community. The events provided an opportunity for students and their families to learn more about flight training, career pathways and the journey toward becoming a professional pilot.

FlyIAA also participated in the Education Interface Exhibition in Abu Dhabi, connecting with students, educators and aspiring aviation professionals while highlighting the growing opportunities available through professional flight training.

FlyIAA Iraq: A New Chapter Begins

FlyIAA reached an important milestone in Iraq with its first-ever Induction Day at the American University of Iraq – Baghdad (AUIB) and CEID - Center of Excellence for Innovation, officially welcoming 16 registered students into the academy. The academy also hosted an Open Day at the University, giving prospective students the opportunity to explore FlyIAA's programs, understand the requirements of professional pilot training and learn more about international aviation career pathways. The launch represents an important step in bringing FlyIAA's training network closer to aspiring pilots in Iraq.

Academy news & milestones

FlyIAA Lebanon: Welcoming the Next Generation

In Lebanon, FlyIAA hosted an Induction Day and Open Day, welcoming its 16 new students and bringing together aspiring pilots and their families. The events provided an opportunity for students to meet the FlyIAA team, learn more about the training journey from the first stages of flight education through to professional qualifications, and explore the career pathways available in aviation. The new intake marks another strong step forward for FlyIAA's growing student community in Lebanon, as the academy continues to support the next generation of aspiring pilots.

FlyIAA Syria: Building New Aviation Pathways

FlyIAA's first month in Syria has marked a remarkable start, with 8 students already registered following the launch of its local operations. This early response reflects the strong interest among aspiring aviators in Syria and the growing demand for access to international-standard aviation training.

With its presence now established, FlyIAA looks forward to building on this momentum and creating new pathways for the next generation of Syrian pilots.

FlyIAA continued to expand its presence in Syria through its Induction Day and Open Day, introducing aspiring aviators to the academy and its international training opportunities.

The academy also participated in the Career Expo in Aleppo, Syria, engaging directly with students and young professionals interested in aviation and exploring the different pathways available to build a career in the industry.

Together, these initiatives mark an important step in FlyIAA's development in the Syrian market and its wider mission to connect aspiring pilots with internationally oriented aviation education and training.

Academy news & milestones

FlyIAA Cyprus: A New Era of Flight Training

FlyIAA Cyprus debuted its transition to a new, all-Diamond training fleet, marking a major upgrade to the student training experience. Featuring modern aircraft and advanced cockpit technology, the new fleet provides an ideal platform for students to develop the technical skills, confidence and operational discipline required of tomorrow's professional pilots.

The transition reinforces FlyIAA's commitment to delivering modern, industry-focused flight training across its growing international network, giving students access to an aircraft platform designed to support their development from the early stages of training through to professional aviation.

FlyIAA Portugal: A New Integrated Aviation Pathway

FlyIAA Portugal has entered a new chapter in its European expansion through a strategic partnership with Universidade Atlântica, creating an integrated pathway that combines professional pilot training with an accredited university degree.

Through the partnership, students will have the opportunity to work towards an EASA professional pilot license while pursuing a bachelor's degree in Air Transport Management or Aeronautical Engineering. The first dedicated joint intakes are planned for May and September 2027, opening a new pathway for students seeking to combine aviation training with higher education.

Student spotlight

Celebrating Milestones in the Cockpit

Every pilot's journey is built on milestones, and this month, several FlyIAA students reached important stages in their training.

Syahiran Iqbal, Hussein Chaaban and Dorna Heidari celebrated a major moment in their aviation journey by completing their first solo flights—a defining achievement that marks a new level of confidence, responsibility and independence in the cockpit.

We also congratulate Majd Shamandi, Hussein Chaaban and Abdallah Fawaz on successfully completing their PPL training. Their achievement reflects the commitment, discipline and consistent effort required to progress from aspiring aviators to qualified private pilots.

To every student reaching a new milestone: keep learning, keep improving, and keep looking ahead. The journey has only just begun.



Instructor insights

Learn to Trust Your Decisions

You will make mistakes during your training. That is part of learning to fly. What matters is what you do when you recognize one. Before immediately looking to your instructor for the answer, take a moment to assess the situation yourself. Ask yourself: What happened? Why did it happen? What are my options? What should I do next?

As long as safety is maintained, give yourself the opportunity to work through the problem. The more you practice making decisions in the cockpit, the more confident and independent you will become.

Remember, the objective is not to become a pilot who never makes mistakes. It is to become a pilot who can recognize, manage, and learn from them.

Flight science & Innovation

Qatar Airways: AI, Connectivity and the Next Generation of Travel

At Arabian Travel Market 2026, Qatar Airways showcased how technology is reshaping the passenger experience. The airline highlighted AI-powered tools, including Q Search for conversational customer support and Infinite Awards, which helps loyalty members plan how to earn Avios and discover destinations.

The airline also showcased its expanding Starlink inflight connectivity, now installed on more than 150 widebody aircraft, alongside its latest Qsuite Next Gen Business Class product featuring advanced entertainment and flexible privacy configurations.

Together, these developments reflect a broader shift in aviation: combining connectivity, artificial intelligence and smarter digital experiences to make air travel more seamless, personalized and connected.

Source: Qatar Airways showcases AI, Starlink and Qsuite at ATM 2026



Industry trends & global aviation outlook

Airbus: Strong Aircraft Demand Signals Continued Global Growth

Despite geopolitical tensions, trade uncertainty and ongoing supply-chain challenges, Airbus continues to see strong global demand for new aircraft, reflecting the resilience of air travel and airlines' long-term fleet expansion and renewal plans.

Over the next 20 years, Airbus forecasts demand for approximately 42,000 new aircraft, with nearly 45% expected to be delivered across the Asia-Pacific region. China and India are expected to remain major contributors to this growth, supported by rising passenger demand, expanding connectivity and fleet modernization.

Fleet replacement will also play a significant role as airlines transition to newer, more efficient aircraft. Models such as the A220 and A321XLR are helping carriers open new routes and connect cities that were previously difficult to serve economically.

The outlook highlights a broader trend for aviation: despite short-term global uncertainties, long-term passenger growth, fleet renewal and expanding connectivity continue to shape the industry's future.

Source: Airbus Sees Strong Aircraft Demand Despite Global Geopolitical Risks



Featured article

British Women Pilots' Association Opens 2026 Aviation Scholarships

The British Women Pilots' Association (BWPA) has opened applications for its 2026 aviation scholarship programme, offering 15 awards to women across the UK at different stages of their flying journey.

The scholarships cover a wide range of opportunities, from first flying qualifications and Private Pilot Licences to advanced flying skills and professional pilot training. Awards also include support for ATPL ground school, giving aspiring commercial pilots opportunities to progress toward an aviation career.

Founded in 1955, BWPA has spent more than seven decades supporting women in aviation and promoting opportunities across flying, instruction, air traffic control, engineering and other areas of the industry.

The programme reflects an important industry trend: creating greater access to training and development opportunities can help more women enter aviation, build their skills and progress toward professional careers.

For aspiring pilots, initiatives such as these demonstrate that a career in aviation can begin with a single opportunity—and grow through continued training, determination and support.

Source: [British Women Pilots' Association opens 2026 aviation scholarships](#)
- Flight Training News

World aviation news

Istanbul Airport Becomes the World's Most Connected Hub

Istanbul Airport has taken the top position in OAG's 2026 Megahubs ranking, overtaking London Heathrow to become the world's most connected airport.

Istanbul recorded a connectivity index of 265.4, serving 337 destinations and offering more than 89,000 possible connections within OAG's six-hour connection window. Its position reflects both its strategic location between Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Africa, and the extensive network of Turkish Airlines, which accounts for around 80% of the airport's capacity.

Meanwhile, Heathrow ranked second, with its connectivity affected by reduced Middle East schedules. The 2026 rankings also highlight the continued strength of Asia-Pacific aviation, which accounts for eight of the world's top 20 most connected airports.

The results demonstrate how network scale, geographic positioning, airline connectivity and global market conditions continue to shape the world's leading aviation hubs.

Source: Istanbul Airport Is the World's Most Connected | MiGFlug



FlyIAA course

Instrument Rating: Expanding Your Capability Beyond Visual Flight

Flying is not always about what you can see. An Instrument Rating (IR) gives pilots the skills and confidence to operate safely when visibility is reduced, weather conditions change, and flights take place within controlled airspace.

At FlyIAA, the 13-week IR course combines advanced FNPT II simulator training with practical flight experience in modern glass-cockpit aircraft. Students learn to fly using instruments, conduct instrument approaches, follow IFR routes, and manage the demands of operating into major regional and international airports. The course requires a minimum of 30 flight hours, with the final training hours determined by the pilot's previous experience. Training is available in the UAE and Cyprus.

What You Will Develop

- Instrument flying and IFR procedures
- Instrument approaches in challenging weather conditions
- Operation within controlled airspace
- Flight using modern glass-cockpit systems
- Decision-making and situational awareness in reduced visibility
- Practical experience preparing for advanced commercial operations

Entry Requirements

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, hold an EASA Class 1 Medical and a valid ICAO or EASA PPL. Candidates must also have completed the required EASA theoretical examinations to ATPL or CPL level, accumulated 200 hours of flight time including 100 hours as Pilot in Command, completed the required cross-country experience, and successfully completed the Basic Instrument Flying Module (BIFM).

The IR is an important step toward becoming a more capable and adaptable professional pilot—building the skills needed to operate confidently when the runway, horizon and weather are no longer working in your favour.

Frequently asked question

Does FlyIAA have partnerships with airlines?

Yes. FlyIAA works with leading aviation organisations, airlines, academic institutions and industry partners to strengthen the connection between professional flight training and the aviation industry.

Among its airline collaborations are Cyprus Airways and Air Arabia, supporting pathways that can help qualified students progress from structured training toward potential airline careers.

These partnerships also help FlyIAA keep its training aligned with evolving industry requirements, operational standards and the skills airlines look for in future pilots. While completing a FlyIAA programme does not guarantee airline employment, these industry connections give students greater exposure to the professional aviation environment and help prepare them for the next stage of their careers.



Video feature



Upcoming events & programs



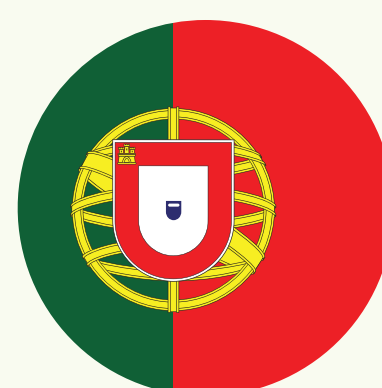
AUIB open day, Iraq
October 10, 2026



**International Education
Show, UAE**
October 11-13, 2026



Airport Show, UAE
October 12-14, 2026



Portugal Air Summit, Alentejo
October 15-17, 2026



Najah, UAE
October 25-27, 2026

Resources & career opportunities



Captain
A320
(Egypt | Cairo)



Captain PC-12
(Dubai | UAE)



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



Pilot Cadet
AC on Seniority
(Saudi Arabia | Riyadh)

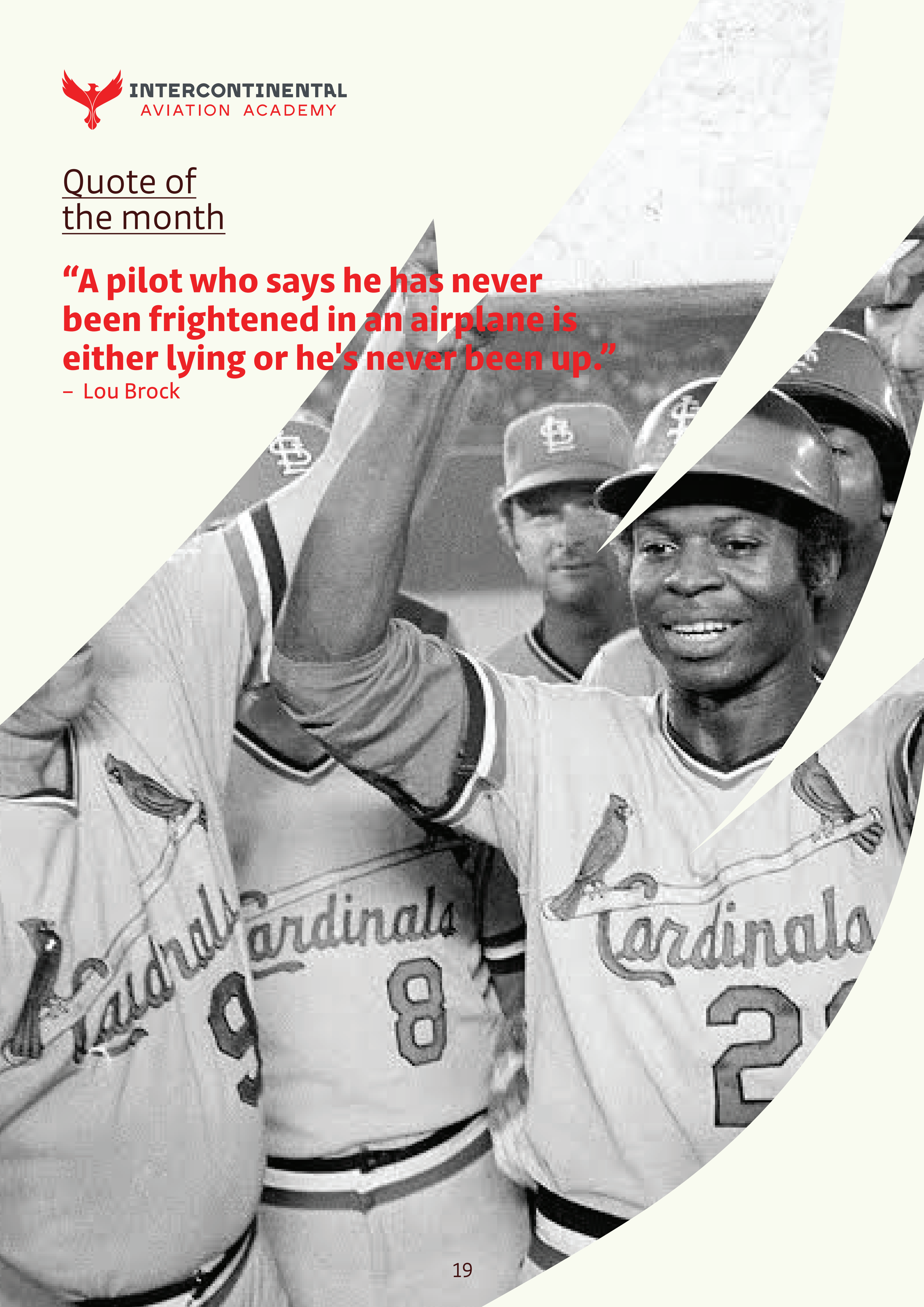


First Officer
Dash 8
(UAE | Abu Dhabi)

Quote of the month

**“A pilot who says he has never
been frightened in an airplane is
either lying or he's never been up.”**

– Lou Brock



FlyIAA October Journal

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