

30 August 2009, London

OXFORD AVIATION ACADEMY ANNOUNCES PLANS TO EXPAND FLIGHT CREW TRAINING OPERATIONS IN HONG KONG

Oxford Aviation Academy (OAA) is pleased to announce plans for the expansion of its Flight Crew Training capabilities in Hong Kong. OAA intends to move to its own dedicated Training Centre and increase the number of Full Flight Simulators and other facilities available to customers.

By the end of the first quarter of 2010, OAA intends to increase to four the number of Full Flight Simulators in Hong Kong through the addition of a second Airbus A320 device. The two Airbus A320 simulators and one Airbus A330/340 simulator will be installed in the new OAA Flight Training Centre. The Boeing 737NG simulator will remain in the Cathay Pacific Airways Flight Training Centre close by.

The new facility, previously used by Hong Kong Dragon Airlines, is located close to the Hong Kong International Airport Terminal and is easily accessible via the airport transport network. It is a modern, purpose-built facility which will be modified to accommodate three Full Flight Simulators. In addition, the Training Centre will be fully equipped with extensive classroom and CBT facilities. Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) have been signed between OAA, Cathay Pacific Airways and Hong Kong Dragon Airlines regarding this move, with all parties working towards final contracts being signed shortly.



OAA has been providing high quality Flight Crew Training and simulator availability in Hong Kong since 1998, operating out of the Cathay Pacific Airways Flight Training Centre. OAA is a Hong Kong Civil Aviation Authority and Chinese CAAC approved Type Rating Training Organisation, providing training for Airbus A320, A330 and A340 and Boeing 737NG pilots.

Oxford Aviation Academy is renowned for the provision of high quality training. To further enhance this position and to meet market demands, OAA will also be introducing Airbus Pilot Transition (APT2) training courses in Hong Kong for the A320 family of aircraft. Increasingly APT2 is becoming the standard for Airbus pilot training in the region.

The expansion of Flight Crew Training in Hong Kong is part of an overall growth strategy in the growing Asia Pacific region. OAA recently acquired both Parc Aviation, which has sales offices in Tokyo and Beijing, and General Flying Services (GFS) in Australia, one of the regions leading ab initio flight training schools.

Parc Aviation is the largest provider of Flight Crews in Asia Pacific with over 300 pilots currently placed with airlines in the region. GFS, based in Melbourne, produces over 300 highly trained pilots a year who are now flying for a number of airlines in Asia Pacific. OAA is therefore uniquely placed to be able to provide a Total Flight Crew solution to airlines operating in the region.

Commenting on the expansion plans, Captain Michael Fitz-Costa, General Manager and Head of Training for OAA in Hong Kong, said: "This is an exciting expansion for OAA. With the developments we are making in Hong Kong we are responding to the needs of our growing customer base in this region. We are focusing on delivering the highest quality of flight crew training in an excellent learning environment, with the best standards of equipment and courseware and increasingly with instruction available in Chinese."

ENDS

About Oxford Aviation Academy (OAA)

OAA is the world's leading independent provider of pilot, cabin crew and maintenance training and aviation resourcing services. It is unique in its ability to offer the world's only fully integrated pilot supply chain. With locations in Beijing, Copenhagen, Dublin, Hong Kong, London (Gatwick), London (Heathrow), Manchester, Melbourne, Oslo, Oxford, Phoenix, Riga, Shannon, Stockholm and Tokyo, OAA is able to provide a "Total Solution" tailored to meet the particular needs of a customer.

OAA operates 49 simulators, has 8 Type Training Centres across Europe and Asia, and can provide a full range of training courses or simulator leases. OAA's Ab Initio pilot training schools are amongst the world's largest and have trained over 23,000 professional pilots over the last 45 years. Parc Aviation, OAA's resourcing division, is the global market leader in providing aviation personnel on lease to airlines and aviation support organisations, currently providing more than 800 personnel contracted to 50 airlines in 30 different countries.

OAA is owned by STAR Capital Partners and General Electric Corporation.

For more information

Ben Lam
Oxford Aviation Academy

Tel: +852 8108 0280
E-mail: ben.lam@oaa.com