

27 April 2010, Oxford

MPL TAKES SOLO FLIGHT IN UK AIRSPACE

The first ever MPL student to go solo in UK Airspace, Oliver Storry aged 27 took to the skies at 0910z this morning in an Oxford Aviation Academy Socata TB20 at Oxford Airport in the UK.

A pioneering course of 6 MPL students commenced training in September 2009 with the Oxford Aviation Academy in partnership with UK airline flybe leading towards employment as a First Officer on the Q400 turboprop aircraft.

Having already completed their ATPL theoretical knowledge examinations the students have now commenced their 90 hours of core skills Flight Training at Oxford Airport. They will complete a further 150 hours of flight training during 3 more phases of MPL training in simulators which will be conducted purely in a multi-pilot training environment.

Oxford Aviation Academy is pioneering MPL training both in the UK and in Asia and is developing further innovative MPL programmes in Australia.

“We are delighted to be writing a new page of airline pilot training history in the UK” says Anthony Petteford, Managing Director of ab initio training for OAA.

Captain Brian Watt, Head of Crew Training for flybe said of the first solo “This is a important milestone in the progress of the MPL and we are proud of Oliver and of the course that we partner. It is great to see our confidence in the course rewarded in this way”.

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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, 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 7 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

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