

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

US AVIATION GROUP TO TRAIN CHINESE PILOTS

Denton, TX – US Aviation Group (USAG) and their affiliate US Flight Academy has received approval from the Chinese CAAC and America's FAA to train Chinese students for careers as commercial pilots. The first group of 24 to 27 students, all college graduates aged 19 – 22, will arrive within a month.

For the first month they will study intensive English as it relates to aviation and then they will begin their flight training. For most of the students, their first hour of training will be their first experience with flight in a small aircraft. It is expected that the students will complete their training in 12 months and return to China with multi-engine, IFR and commercial ratings. They will also have taken the ATP written exam and spent 10 hours at the controls of a King Air and another 10 in a King Air simulator for transition to turbine.

US Flight Academy operates a Part 141 training program. To accommodate the Chinese, they had to develop a new curriculum that was acceptable to China's CAAC and the FAA. They have also expanded their

fleet of trainers to [over 23 aircraft](#). The students will spend most of their time in Cessna 152s and 172s.

A new group of approximately 25 students will start the program every four to six weeks, leading to an expected pilot population of 300 by the end of the first year. To accommodate all of those students, US Flight Academy is looking at buying one or more apartment complexes in Denton.

China has reached out to only two dozen schools around the world to provide support for their burgeoning commercial air traffic. It is a clear indication that the new image China sought to project with the summer Olympics goes beyond symbolism.

“We have been very impressed with the professionalism and commitment of the Chinese officials who came over here to inspect our facilities and equipment,” said Mike Sykes, President of USAG and US Flight Academy. “There are some major challenges that arise in meeting the needs of this kind of program, but we are confident it’s going to be a win-win situation for the Chinese and for us.”

For the past couple years, US Flight Academy has been active in training students from India. That program will continue.

For students who are citizens of the United States, they have a Professional Pilot program that will prepare pilots for a career with the airlines, with guaranteed airline interviews. They also train people for

recreational flying. For more information visit www.usflightacademy.com or call 866.383.2400.

PHOTO CAPTION: (1) Roper Vaughan (left), VP & CFO, USAG; Mike Sykes, President, USAG; Zhang Hangting, Deputy Director, CAAC (China's FAA); Denton Mayor Mark Burroughs; Captain Yang Hu, Director, General Aviation Flight Standards, CAAC; Ms. Cheng Jinping, General Aviation Division Inspector, CAAC; Mark Taylor, VP Marketing, USAG. The group is responsible for putting the US/China pilot program together.

For journalists only:
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES, INC.
580 Sudden Valley
Bellingham, WA 98229
Phone: 360.756.1911
Cell: 360.224.2004
Contact: David A. Gustafson, Ph.D
E-mail: Davidflies1@msn.com