

## **IAOPA eNews – October 2013**

### **IAOPA Tours World Assembly Venues**

IAOPA Secretary General Craig Spence and Senior Vice President Martin Robinson were hosted by representatives from AOPA-China on a three city tour to identify possible locations and hotels to be considered for the upcoming 2014 IAOPA World Assembly. The World Assembly is planned for September 2014 and we are expecting to be able to announce the specific dates once a hotel contract has been signed by the host country. All of the venues considered offered attending delegates superior service and affordability and I can assure you that the upcoming meeting will be a success regardless of the final city choice. An announcement will be made in the next few weeks firming up the details and formally inviting delegates to attend - be sure to block your calendar as I am sure this is one World Assembly that you do not want to miss.

### **IAOPA Participates in US/China Aviation Summit**

In conjunction with the IAOPA World Assembly site visit, the IAOPA Secretary General participated in a panel discussion on general aviation development in China. The panel was part of a well-attended U.S. China Aviation Symposium being held in Beijing sponsored by the U.S. Trade and Development Agency and the Civil Aviation Administration of China. The panel discussion focused on general aviation development, business aviation operations in China, low altitude airspace management, pilot training, oversight and development of GA facilities, FBO's and infrastructure, and focused a group of industry experts onto the challenges that China will face in the next few years as it works towards the development of the necessary infrastructure needed to support and grow a robust general aviation segment.

### **AOPA-India Making a Difference for GA**

A few months ago, AOPA-India petitioned the DGCA for simplification of rules with regard to the ownership of aircraft and licensing of pilots. In that petition ([http://www.aopa.in/20130624\\_scion\\_aopa/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/DGCA-Petition.pdf](http://www.aopa.in/20130624_scion_aopa/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/DGCA-Petition.pdf)) they had urged the DGCA to simplify the process of Students Pilot License in order to provide an easy single point of entry to students and eager-to-learn future pilots. Recently released guidelines show that the DGCA has addressed their concerns. In a notice to members, AOPA-India President Ramesh Rao provided the following details.

We are delighted that the DGCA has issued the Procedure and Guidelines for issue of Student Pilot License (Aeroplane/Helicopter/ Glider) in a FLYING TRAINING CIRCULAR No. 3 of 2013 Dated: 7-9-2013. (Please read the full Guidelines here [http://dgca.nic.in/circular/ftlc3\\_2013.pdf](http://dgca.nic.in/circular/ftlc3_2013.pdf)). The circular now authorizes a Board constituted by the CFI to conduct SPL oral examination.

AOPA-India congratulates the DGCA for this progressive step in removing one of the first hurdles of becoming a pilot and we are sure this will go a long way in improving the enrollment in flight schools across the country and bringing new young pilots into the system.

While we had urged for the complete removal of the examination as: *“It is the Instructor's job to impart all necessary theoretical and practical knowledge and skill to the student pilot and is part of being groomed into becoming a good pilot. The understanding and knowledge can only be gained through the practical process of flying and an examination at the time of enrollment or issue of SPL is impractical.”* The DGCA however continues to prescribe the oral examination in Air Regulation, Air Navigation, Aviation Meteorology and Aircraft and Engines (aircraft general and specific) as per the syllabus.

We would suggest that all concerned CFIs adhere strictly to the examination and prescribed syllabus and put in place a system to help prepare the potential student for the oral exams. While the DGCA has reposed faith in the CFIs and training establishments for issue of SPL, it is for the training community now to work towards a self-prescribed set of rules and professional ethics in following the guidelines of the DGCA.

AOPA-India would like to work with the CFIs and flight training organizations in evolving a set of uniform procedures and lay down norms for uniform fees and processes. Please do get in touch with your views.

This is a very welcome step in the right direction and on behalf of all our members we wish to thank the various personnel at the DGCA for responding to our petition and making this possible. AOPA-India will continue to engage with the regulators on various issues on behalf of the piloting community in India and the benefit of general aviation in India.

## **AOPA-India Addresses Licensing Rules**

AOPA-India is tackling the rules for licensing private pilots and needs your help. The DGCA in India has a requirement of School Leaving Certificate and 10<sup>th</sup> pass certificate as the basic qualification for admission to the PPL examination. We have a number of pilots who have qualified as pilots (in the US and other countries) but are ineligible to convert their licenses under the Indian rules. For a better understanding of the regulations followed by other countries, they are asking for feedback on the educational pre-qualifications needed to obtain a Recreational/Microlight/LSA/ or Private Pilot's License in your country. Any information that you can provide will assist them as they prepare their argument for presentation to the Indian regulators. Please send your response to Ramesh Rao, President, AOPA-India at [Ramesh@scion.co.in](mailto:Ramesh@scion.co.in).

## **IAOPA European Region Meets**

36 representatives from 19 European IAOPA affiliates along with many key European regulators met in Heidelberg, Germany to receive updates on IAOPA advocacy efforts with the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), SESAR, and the groups' interaction with regulators and members of the European Parliament. The group was graciously hosted by AOPA-Germany which is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year in 2014. For all of the details of the meeting check with IAOPA Europe at [www.iaopa.eu/](http://www.iaopa.eu/).

### **IAOPA Corrects the Record on Accident in China**

Reports emerged of a fatal accident in China involving a controversial US pilot while he was preparing for an upcoming airshow at Faku, north of the city of Shanyang, China. Initial reports were listing AOPA-China as the organization sponsoring the event threatening to draw the organization into an extremely complex and controversial accident investigation. IAOPA issued a press release offering condolences for the families involved in the accident and also correcting the misinformation that was being circulated tying our AOPA affiliate to the event.

### **Nominating Committee to Meet at AOPA-US Summit**

A nominating committee has been formed with IAOPA Senior Vice President Martin Robinson serving as Committee Chairman to nominate individuals for the positions of IAOPA President, and Vice President of the IAOPA Pacific Region. The nominations committee also consists of Michael Erb, AOPA-Germany, Lennart Persson, AOPA-Sweden, Melissa Rudinger, AOPA-US, Kevin Psutka, COPA, John Yodice, IAOPA General Counsel, and Craig Spence, IAOPA Secretary General. The committee will meet at the upcoming AOPA-US Summit in Fort Worth, TX. If your organization is interested in nominating the executive director of your organization please be sure to send an official nomination to IAOPA Headquarters by Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. Results of the committee's discussions and individuals nominated will be sent to the IAOPA Board for an expedited review and voting procedure so that these two critical positions can be filled. If you have any questions please feel free to contact IAOPA Headquarters staff.

### **Cessna Announces Major Order for 172 Skyhawk Aircraft**

WICHITA, KAN., September 13, 2013 – Cessna Aircraft Company, a Textron Inc. (NYSE:TXT) company, today announced an order for 79 Cessna 172 Skyhawk aircraft, one of the largest orders on record for the aircraft, at Moscow's JetExpo 2013.

Moscow-based ViraZH, plans to use the Skyhawks for training purposes at various flight schools throughout western Russia. The order is part of a multi-year agreement between Cessna and ViraZH, with all 79 aircraft set to be delivered by the third quarter of 2014. On completion of the final delivery, ViraZH will have one of the world's largest fleets of Skyhawk 172 aircraft in operation.

Kriya Shortt, Cessna senior vice president of Sales, said: "We are delighted to have a strong relationship with ViraZH and are proud they have selected the Cessna 172

Skyhawk to be their training platform. This order augments an additional 11 Skyhawks purchased by ViraZH in 2011, highlighting their confidence in our product. It is encouraging to see an increase in both our global customer base and flight training accessibility in Russia.”

Jodi Noah, Cessna senior vice president for Single Engine/Propeller Aircraft, added: “Cessna’s reputation for producing reliable and safe products precedes us both in the US and globally. The Cessna 172 Skyhawk is the world’s most popular training aircraft and we are confident that this next generation of aviation students who now have the access to this fleet will benefit immensely, as have many aviation students before them.”

The 172 Skyhawk has become the best-selling, most-flown single-engine aircraft in the world. With an all-glass Garmin G1000 integrated flight deck, the Cessna 172 Skyhawk has earned a reputation for offering the best combination of modern features and proven dependability among general aviation aircraft.

### **GAMA Expands International Presence in Brussels Office**

BRUSSELS—The General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA) today announced the appointment of Greg Bowles to a new position as Director of European Regulatory Affairs & Engineering. Bowles will join GAMA’s Director of European and International Affairs Brian Davey in GAMA’s Brussels office. Joining the association in 2005, Bowles has served as Director of Engineering & Manufacturing at the association’s Washington headquarters. In his new role, he will strengthen GAMA’s ability to work towards better and more efficient regulatory systems, as well as ensuring even stronger coordination between global aviation authorities and manufacturers.

Bowles also served as the industry co-chair of the international regulator/industry working group that included representation from EASA, the FAA and aviation authorities from Canada, Brazil, China and New Zealand that developed a new global framework for the certification of light general aviation airplanes (CS 23/Part 23). He has focused in the areas of regulation and policy affecting avionics, aircraft systems and airframe design, as well as aerospace manufacturing and quality assurance.

### **ASI takes on Winter Weather Worries**

If you’re living in the northern hemisphere, you might want to participate in the Air Safety Institute’s “Ice Week” from November 3 through November 9. Each day during Ice Week, learn how to combat debilitating precipitation and icing phenomena and how to avoid treacherous icing encounters.

You may already know why any amount of structural icing is dangerous—even a little bit—or that the top of the clouds may hold the worst icing. But, did you know that almost half of all icing-related accidents happened to pilots with more than 1,000 hours total time? Head the warning: Experience grants no immunization when it comes to icing. Let

ASI be your guide to its terrific free resources on this topic, such as videos, courses, quizzes, accident case studies, and real pilot stories. And pilots in the southern hemisphere shouldn't feel left out in the cold. "Ice Week" can still benefit you to be prepared ahead for when cold temperatures and icy drizzle arrive and thoroughly chill the sky next winter season in your part of the world.

### **Pass on This Newsletter to Your Members**

Nothing can keep existing members, and attract new members like reminding them of the great work that IAOPA affiliates are doing on national, regional, and international levels to keep them flying. Great work is being done in all parts of the globe to advance the interests of general aviation and the best way to share the message is to make sure that this newsletter gets to as many members and non-members alike. So I encourage you to publish this on your website, send on via email to your members, and do what you can to help spread the word.