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MEDIA RELEASE

ALPHA AVIATION GROUP UAE AND AUSTRALIAN AIRLINE PILOT ACADEMY COMMENCES MPL TRAINING FOR UAE CADET PILOTS

The Australian Airline Pilot Academy (AAPA), a subsidiary of Regional Express, jointly with Alpha Aviation Group UAE (AAG UAE), a joint-venture company of Alpha Aviation Group (AAG) and Air Arabia, today commenced the training of the first United Arab Emirates (UAE) cadet pilots intake on the flying component of the new ICAO Multi-Crew Pilot Licence (MPL). The cadet pilots are being trained for Air Arabia, the first and largest low cost carrier in the Middle East and North Africa.

Prior to the commencement of the training, AAPA, working together with AAG UAE and the wider AAG group, underwent an extensive audit by the General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) of the UAE in order to be accredited to deliver the MPL flight training for UAE cadets. All instructors at AAPA are now habilitated to deliver the MPL flight training for UAE cadets.

AAPA Chairman Chris Hine stated, "We are both excited and honoured to be embarking on the new MPL program on behalf of AAG and warmly welcome the first intake of Air Arabia cadet pilots to our Academy. We are proud to be among the very few pilot academies around the world that could deliver this new MPL programme which is also recognised by CASA of Australia."

AAG Chief Operating Officer Patrick Lai mentioned, "We, together with AAG UAE, are very happy working with AAPA in supporting our MPL cadets in the flying component of the training curriculum in Wagga Wagga. The AAPA training facility and resources are top-notch and are able to meet the very stringent requirements of the GCAA and AAG, and we are confident that our cadets will be able to benefit from their training there. We look forward to more collaborative opportunities with AAPA in the future". AAPA expects to train about 60 UAE cadets per year for AAG UAE. Should this endeavour successful, the collaboration will be extended to other academies within the Alpha Aviation Group.

AAPA is a wholly owned subsidiary of Regional Express, Australia's largest independent regional airline. AAPA provides pilot training from ab-initio to airline standard Commercial Pilot Licence at its Wagga Wagga, NSW campus with Asia Pacific's most modern pilot training facilities. As a training organisation, AAPA is certified to provide nationally recognised training as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO), as well as training for overseas students in Australia through its Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS)-certification.

Alpha Aviation Group UAE is part of the Alpha Aviation Group launched in 2008, offering the region's first Multi-Pilot Licence (MPL) program for the A320, in collaboration with Air Arabia - the first and largest low cost carrier in the Middle East and North Africa. AAG is the largest independent MPL training organization in the world in terms of the number of MPL graduates. It also has established training academies in the Philippines and in the UK, with its corporate headquarter in Singapore.

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