

FORWARD FACING

BEYOND THE COCKPIT: ALSIM SIMULATORS ENHANCE MILITARY PILOT TRAINING IN POLAND



There is wide range of devices now available on the open market, so the precise selection of the most suitable trainer is not always straightforward. In the case of **the Polish Air Force University (PAFU)** in Poland there is an additional factor which had to be considered – government procurement protocols needed to be followed.

When looking at the simulator platforms already in service with other operators in aviation training, the PAFU saw that the success of ALSIM flight simulators showed a pathway to select an appropriate device. They tried, tested, and, above all, **the already-certified ALSIM solutions provided the reassurance of a proven training tool.**

To support the fleet of 25 aircraft the PAFU wanted a simulator which fully represented the cockpit and flight characteristics of both the Diamond DA-40 and DA-42, and which met the specifications of an EASA FNPT 2 device. The advantage of such a device was the cognition that a student trained on a type-specific simulator which is identical to a real cockpit of the aircraft.





The University's training material aligned perfectly with ALSIM's capabilities, as it was designed to support training using flight simulation devices. With certifications from the Civil Aviation Authority for each device, ALSIM simulators were approved for operational use. This allowed students to train in scenarios that closely mirrored real-world aircraft situations. One of the key functions of a flight simulator is to realistically and safely recreate unusual or emergency events, such as asymmetric flight. This enables students to practice the correct procedures in a risk-free environment.

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In addition to training cadets for the needs of the Polish Armed Forces, the PAFU also conducts the assessment of candidates to identify the characteristics necessary for military pilots. This is done immediately after the aviation medical examinations but before the entrance exams that are required for the start of the training. Because of today's stringent requirements for selection to military aviation training, and the addition of the EASA-compliant MCC or JOC training, a new training platform was needed. In 2022, the search started for a multi-module trainer which could not only deliver Medium JET, SEP, MEP training, but which also had the capability of calibrating the potential talent of the candidates. **This led to the choice of the ALSIM Selection Tool.** It's really critical not only are piloting technique skills assessed but the focus is also on psychomotor aspects, including attention division, coordination, perception or reaction time.



ALL of this shows that our expectations of the ALSIM simulators were more than met, and that we are well satisfied with their performance.

prepared by Chris Long, freelance journalist