

FORWARD FACING - TEAM AVIATION AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO TRAINING

In the intense world of aviation, the joy of flying is often submerged in the drive for operational status and efficiency. It is easy to forget that, particularly for the Private Pilot, the simple pleasure of flying oneself is a great joy. At the root of any flying, however, is the imperative that the activity must be safe.

With that in mind, a recent development comes from a new kid on the block. TEAM Aviation of Queensland Australia has successfully tackled the two goals of safety and fun for the private pilot. Alyce Johnson, the joint CEO, wanted to develop her awareness of those goals, based on her experience as an instructor, to design and establish a new approach to training private pilots. The launch was in October 2021.



MODERN EQUIPMENT AND MOTIVATED INSTRUCTORS

This is based on using modern equipment and motivated instructors to provide individually tailored training for the Private Pilot and, if desired, delivering that directly to the individual at their own base. The basic syllabus conforms to the CASA requirements for issue of a PPL, and that can be extended to include a CASA IREX Exam course.



In terms of equipment, the training is based around the Cirrus series of aircraft, presently with a fleet of two SR22s and one SR20 which will be increased by a further one SR22 and two SR20's, arriving early in 2023. That selection was driven by the choice to present a modern aircraft which is seen as more attractive for that population than worthy but dated legacy machines. The side stick, modern flight deck and specifically the Cirrus Airframe Parachute System (CAPS) reassure both pilot and passengers of an increased level of safety, and more closely echo the familiar feel of a modern automobile.

"After a thorough market research, it became clear that the ALSIM ALSR20 was the only solution to allow us to provide flight training as part of an integrated flight training solution for TEAM members. We demand quality and safety in everything that we do, and it is embedded in our values and brand."

Alyce Johnson, CEO

Team Aviation, Brisbane, Australia



The next choice, of course, was to choose a simulator to support that training, and it is here that Johnson went for the Alsim ALSR20 Flight Simulator at the Brisbane office. This device replicates not only the layout and characteristics of the SR20, but also can simulate the deployment of the CAPS - a training exercise which could not be carried out during routine training. Given the tailoring for the individual, this ALSIM ALSR20 allows to student to practice familiarisation with their routine destinations and to extend that to unfamiliar airfields before launching to them, all confidence -builders and adding to the enjoyment of operating your own aircraft.

BEING ABLE TO FLY SAFELY AND RAPIDLY DIRECT TO YOUR MEETING IS VERY ATTRACTIVE

Obviously, this training is eminently suitable for those who fly for business appointments. The more remote and geographically dispersed populations of Australia are not well served by commercial transport, and the distances are daunting for surface transport. Being able to fly safely and rapidly direct to your meeting is very attractive.



All-in-all a novel approach to training private pilots in a client-oriented way, who can then either fly safely for pleasure or business. Early success has encouraged Johnson to plan to roll out this model to regions across Australia.

Prepared by Chris Long, freelance journalist

