



MEDIA RELEASE FOR ELITE SIMULATION SOLUTIONS AG

PILATUS ADDS TO ELITE ORDERS WITH SPECIAL DEBRIEFING STATION FOR PILOTS LEARNING TO FLY THE PC-7 MkII

Pilatus Aircraft Ltd is extremely pleased with the two Elite Simulation Solutions Flight Training Devices (FTDs) that they supplied to the South African Air Force (SAAF) for pilot training and has now placed an order for a specially designed debriefing station to work alongside the FTD. Delivery of the second FTD in July this year was several weeks ahead of schedule.

The SAAF says: "the initial Elite FTD commissioned last year has performed well beyond expectations and offers more training routines than initially expected".

The debriefing station has been set into operation in mid November and allows the SAAF to debrief recorded sorties by one student whilst at the same time allowing other students to train on the FTDs.

Switzerland-based Elite is one of the world's leading manufacturers of PC-based IFR training systems.

The Elite FTDs are helping training pilots at the SAAF's Central Flying School at Langebaanweg on the upgraded Pilatus PC-7 MkII turbo trainer aircraft.

Built to meet JAR STD-2A Level 2 certification requirements, the Elite PC-7 MkII FTD is manufactured in close co-operation with the experienced staff in the Pilatus Ground Based Training department. The requirements for the device were clearly defined from the outset and Elite says: "this ensured that the customer's expectations are being met in full."

The FTDs include detailed replicas of the original PC-7 MkII cockpit and have glass cockpit instrumentation and a contemporary instructor's station with full replay capabilities. Integral in the FTDs are 5-channel external visual systems based on the Rockwell Collins EPX50, supplied by Pilatus.

The FTDs, the third and fourth ordered by Pilatus, are closely similar to the second Elite FTD ordered by Pilatus, who installed it in Malaysia to help training pilots of the Royal Malaysian Air Force on the Pilatus PC-7 MkII.

SAAF pilots started training on the first of the two units in late 2010, whilst the second came on stream in July this year. SAAF staff operating the Elite FTDs said: "the products exceed their expectations and opened the door for expanding the conventional use of the simulators in the future." They said they had the highest praise for the whole FTD team for their professional approach and commitment.

Elite's Sales Manager, René Huddleston said: "We are very pleased that an existing relationship with Pilatus, a very future-minded company, has been further strengthened. This continues a well-established and co-operative partnership with a high level of exchange of information that creates a very efficient working environment".

Huddleston added: "Their order, for yet more Elite flight training devices that have been placed in Africa, shows additional faith in Elite's PC-based simulation solutions which, with their low maintenance, high reliability and excellent value, offer huge advantages over conventional solutions. We are very happy with the fruitful co-operation with Pilatus and the SAAF"

The PC-7 MkII is a benchmark abinitio turbo trainer aircraft which is manufactured at Pilatus' headquarters in Stans, Switzerland.

With more than 70 years of traditional Swiss quality linked to the use of the latest aircraft technology, Pilatus offers high quality commercial and training aircraft and no other company has as much experience of single engine turboprop aircraft.

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