

Toulouse, 19 October, 2012

Pilot training: ATR obtains the first certification in France under the new EASA rules

ATR's Training Center today obtained the FR.ATO.0001 certificate. This makes it the very first training organization in France to meet the new European "PART FCL" standards, which now define the EC regulations for pilots' licenses. ATR thus becomes the first "Approved Training Organization" in France under this new regulation put forth by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA).

The certificate was presented to ATR by the French Directorate General for Civil Aviation (DGAC), which validated the implementation of these new rules by ATR. These rules require restructuring the organization of pilot training and revision of the training manuals, which are now harmonized on a European scale, as well as the integration of a new safety management system in the framework of pilot training. In France, approximately 800 organizations are concerned by these new regulations. These organizations include aircraft manufacturers, airlines, training centers and flying clubs, for which pilot training is also a part of their activities.

Ms. Florence Rousse, Civil Aviation Safety Director, highlighted "ATR's high degree of responsiveness in order to comply with the new EASA regulations as quickly as possible." And added: "This first certification in France will no doubt have a very positive effect on the other organizations, with the aim of ensuring full compliance between now and end of April 2013, the deadline for making the transition to this new regulation."

Mr. Lilian Braylé, ATR's Senior Vice-President Product Support & Services, was "delighted to have obtained the very first ATO certification in France. This certification underlines the quality of the training offered and the modern nature of the tools made available to our students. With the growth of the ATR fleet worldwide, we owe it to ourselves to guarantee excellence in the trainings we offer. Obtaining this new certification fits into this context of high standards and illustrates the responsiveness that we demonstrated to implement it."

About ATR:

Founded in 1981, ATR has become the world leader on the market for regional aircraft with 90 seats or less. Since its creation, ATR has sold more than 1,200 aircraft and has 186 operators based in 90 countries. ATR planes have totalled over 21 million flight hours. ATR is an equal partnership between two major European aeronautics players, Alenia Aermacchi (a Finmeccanica Group company) and EADS. Its head office is in Toulouse. ATR is ISO 14001 certified. This is the international reference standard in the field for environmental friendliness.

For additional information, log on to www.atraircraft.com.

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