

## US Flight Academy Sport Pilot Program

US Flight Academy now provides flight training for anyone desiring a sport pilot certificate. Priced at \$3,783, the program can be completed in as little as 10 days. Students arriving with a passing score on their written exam, and cooperative weather, can expect to complete the course in a week. The school says 21 hours of flight training in a Remos light-sport aircraft and 28 hours of ground school should prepare people with average abilities to pass the sport pilot checkride.

For details visit [www.USFlightAcademy.com](http://www.USFlightAcademy.com) or call 866-383-2400; overseas call 940-383-2484.



## Flight Design, LAMA Announce Audit Completion

Flight Design and the Light Aircraft Manufacturers Association (LAMA) announced at the 2008 Sebring U.S. Sport Aviation Expo that Flight Design successfully completed an independent audit of ASTM standards compliance. The voluntary audit assures industry consensus standards are being followed. EAA has voiced support for compliance audits and the LAMA Label that can be applied to an aircraft. "As this program matures, we'll encourage our members to look for the LAMA Label to identify aircraft that have been evaluated for compliance with ASTM standards," said Earl Lawrence, EAA's vice president of industry and regulatory affairs.

Learn more at [www.FlightDesign.com](http://www.FlightDesign.com).

## Vertical Power Climate System

Vertical Power has launched its VP-200 Climate Control System (CCS). The VP-200 CCS gives the pilot the ability to "set and forget" the temperature in an airplane's cabin. It works with Vertical Power's solid-state switching system, providing an integrated display for control, system monitoring, and alerting functions for everything electrical on the aircraft. Designed in conjunction with Flightline AC of Bend, Oregon, a supplier of air conditioning systems for experimental aircraft, the VP-200 CCS uses the latest technology in both solid-state switching and air conditioning systems. For more information, visit [www.VerticalPower.com](http://www.VerticalPower.com).



## Rotax Amends Service Bulletin

Alert Service Bulletin SB-912-051/SB-914-034 (including UL variant), "Checking of Magnetic Plug on Rotax Engine Type 912/914 (Series) Engines," has been amended by Rotax. The "alert" status has been removed, and the engine serial number list for affected engines has been reduced to a more defined range. For those engines in the affected range, a detailed inspection of the engine magnetic lug is needed to verify if a higher wear rate than normal is taking place. This new amended SB now also requires a detailed magnetic plug inspection at each mandatory oil change in accordance with the current engine maintenance schedule/checklist for all affected engines.

Visit [www.Rotax-Owner.com](http://www.Rotax-Owner.com).

## First Rotax E-Learning Module

The factory-authorized Rotax Owners Assistance Network released its first in a series of online e-learning video modules. This first four-chapter release covers the correct procedures for carburetor tuning and synchronization for Rotax 912 and 914 series aircraft engines. Additional e-learning modules covering the entire context of service and maintenance for the Rotax 912 and 914 series engines will be available soon.

Visit [www.Rotax-Owner.com](http://www.Rotax-Owner.com).

## 2007 A Record Year for General Aviation Manufacturers

Leaders of the General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA) announced that the 2007 year-end shipment figures for the general aviation industry have led to another record high in industry billings. Speaking at GAMA's Annual Industry Review and Market Outlook Briefing, Alan Klapmeier, GAMA chairman and chairman and CEO of Cirrus Design Corporation, reported that a strong worldwide market, especially outside of North America, was a driving factor for general aviation in 2007.

Record industry billings totaled \$21.9 billion, eclipsing last year's figure by 16.5 percent. Year-end, worldwide shipments of general aviation airplanes totaled 4,272 units, the most in more than a quarter century and up 5.4 percent. Aside from the record set for year-end billings, the industry also experienced an all-time high in business jet shipments, delivering more than 1,000 units for the first time in history.

For more information, visit [www.GAMA.aero](http://www.GAMA.aero).

## Virgin Galactic Accredited Space Agent Forum

Environmental Tectonics Corporation's National Aerospace Training and Research (NASTAR) Center recently hosted 50 Virgin Galactic accredited space agents (ASAs) from 14 countries for a two-day forum designed to update them on the Virgin Galactic project and to give them in-depth knowledge of the new NASTAR Center Air and Space Adventure Programs. These new programs are designed to be a "try before you buy" for prospective travelers onboard Virgin Galactic's suborbital space flights. NASTAR Center is the official training provider for Virgin Galactic, which recently released the designs of WhiteKnightTwo and SpaceShipTwo at an event in New York City. Virgin

Galactic will be the world's first commercial spaceline and provider of private suborbital spaceflights.



For more information about Virgin Galactic and ASAs, please contact Carolyn Wincer, head of astronaut sales, at [Carolyn.Wincer@VirginGalactic.com](mailto:Carolyn.Wincer@VirginGalactic.com).

## La Porte Aviation Adds LSAs

La Porte Aviation Services began business in corporate and general aviation, and recently added light-sport aircraft to its fleet. The company offers the new Flying Machines Mystique for flight training and rental and plans to add an Allegro 2007 to its training fleet. The company serves as a dealer for both aircraft. La Porte Aviation is based in northwest Indiana at La Porte Municipal Airport (PPO).

For details, visit [www.FlyLPAS.com](http://www.FlyLPAS.com).

## IN BRIEF

### Cessna Names Shih to Oversee SkyCatcher Operations



Cessna Aircraft Company appointed Mike Shih to lead the company's China operations. As director of Cessna China Operations, Shih will oversee the production of the Cessna Model 162 SkyCatcher and support business development opportunities in China. He will be based at Textron's Shanghai, China, office.

For more information, visit [www.Cessna.com](http://www.Cessna.com).

### Downwind Technology Acquired

Hamilton Smith Capital Inc., a private investment company located in Green Bay, Wisconsin, has acquired Downwind Technology LLC, a manufacturer and distributor of proprietary aftermarket aviation products including Shark series floats, Toucan exhaust systems, and Penguin skis. The company's facilities will move from Weston, Wisconsin, to Green Bay.

Learn more at [www.DownwindTechnology.com](http://www.DownwindTechnology.com).

## NEW PRODUCTS

### Flight Guide Online Expands

Flight Guide Online is now available to pilots flying into, or out of, 15 central U.S. states. With Flight Guide Online pilots have access to up-to-date airport information, such as airport services and diagrams, airspace graphics, flight planning, weather, food, transportation, and more. It's available from a home computer, laptop, tablet PC, or any platform used to access the web. Annual subscriptions are \$35 per region (western, central, and eastern) and \$89 for the entire United States. (Flight Guide manual subscribers pay \$19 per region.) The online version does not replace the Flight Guide printed book, but complements it. Learn more at [www.FlightGuide.com](http://www.FlightGuide.com).



### New ADS Software

Aircraft Design Software (ADS) is designed to take an aircraft designer through nearly the entire aircraft design process. It provides a systematic process to get designers through the three major design phases: the conceptual design, the preliminary design, and the detail design. The software is available in light aircraft, homebuilders, professional, and educational versions. A free demo is available at [www.OAD.aero](http://www.OAD.aero).



### New Aerospace Ratchet

The new Stanley Proto Aerospace Ratchet can be used on different types of aircraft fasteners. Its head, or drive plug, includes a vertical through-hole where users can insert a hex key for the installation of frangible collars on threaded pins, a common fastener system in airframe work. The ratchet can also be fitted with conventional sockets for use with hex head nuts and bolts. The ratchets come in one-fourth inch and three-eighths inch drive sizes, and a low profile reversing lever allows for one-handed operation. For more information, call 800-800-8665 or go to [www.StanleyProto.com](http://www.StanleyProto.com).



### Sporty's Flight Gear Gets Makeover

Sporty's Flight Gear bags have been redesigned, adding more features and better organization, in response to customer feedback. The new line of five bags includes new features such as a stronger, water-resistant fabric; metal hardware that won't bend or break; a two-color exterior; and more pockets for sunglasses, cell phones, and GPS units. Padded pockets protect headsets when not in use. Custom embroidery is available, and all bags come with a six-year warranty. Call 800-776-7897 or visit [www.Sportys.com](http://www.Sportys.com) for more information.



### Sonex's New Ailerons

Sonex Aircraft LLC now has Sport Acro ailerons for Sonex and Waix aircraft. All new Sonex and Waix complete airframe kits shipped after February 1, 2008, include "universal" aileron skin stock that may be trimmed to fit either traditional or Sport Acro aileron dimensions. Also included are all flap and aileron ribs required to perform either installation, along with all required documentation. Existing customers may purchase all parts necessary to retrofit their aircraft with Sport Acro ailerons. Sport Acro ailerons are intended to increase Sonex or Waix roll rate for enhanced aerobatic capability. Visit [www.SonexAircraft.com](http://www.SonexAircraft.com) or call 920-231-8297.

## BOOKS

### Yukon Flight

*Wings Over the Yukon* is a photographic history of aviation in the Yukon. Author Bruce McAllister takes the reader on a photographic journey that traces the development of aviation in the Yukon Territory. You'll see the first aircraft to operate in the Yukon, the construction of the Alaska Highway, search and rescue missions, glacier pilots, aerials of old airstrips, and much more. Check your local bookstore or online booksellers, ISBN 978-0-9638817-1-7.

### Pioneers in Flight

*Black Wings: Courageous Stories of African Americans in Aviation and Space History* shares stories of barnstormer Bessie Coleman, the Tuskegee Airmen of World War II, and African-American astronauts in the space shuttle program. The saga of African-American aerospace pioneers remains an important episode in American history, one of individual triumph against racial barriers in the 20th century. Author Von Hardesty, a curator at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C., preserves this history in a visual and narrative tribute to African-American pioneers in aviation and space history. Order online or at your favorite bookstore, *Black Wings* by Von Hardesty, ISBN 0061261386.

### Know Your NOTAMs

*NOTAM's Illustrated*, second edition, is now available to aid pilots in the interpretation of the new NOTAM formats. NOTAM's Illustrated can help pilots understand the transition of Local NOTAMs to NOTAMs D and the introduction of keyword usage, such as "O," "U," "AD," and "OBST." The 111-page, softcover, wire-bound reference guide offers many examples of translated NOTAMs. Written by Jerry Miller, an air traffic control specialist with more than 27 years of aviation experience, the book is available for \$19.95. To order, call 570-435-5349 or visit [www.FliteBooks.com](http://www.FliteBooks.com).

### Flight in the Far North

In *Back to the Barrens* George Erickson, author of *True North: Exploring the Great Wilderness by Bush Plane*, returns to the far north in search of new sights and stories to tell. *Back to the Barrens* provides a tour of the north, of aeronautics, science, mythology, and history in a book written with humor. Camp with the author on a fog-bound Hudson Bay island, stroll through caribou herds, and visit the Arctic Circle. The 328-page book includes a 24-page color photo section and route maps. Order at 800-938-1114 or visit [www.HancockHouse.com](http://www.HancockHouse.com).

### Wright Flyer to F-22 Raptor

*Milestones of Aviation*, edited by John T. Greenwood with Von Hardesty, captures the history of flight, from the Wright brothers to the military's supersonic stealth F-22A Raptor. The book's essays chronicle the exciting history of aeronautics, accompanied by images that span more than a century of flight. Check your online or local bookseller for more information, ISBN 978-0-7893-9995-3, April 2008.