

Baltic Aviation Academy enters into an exclusive partnership with Bird Consultancy Services for Indian Subcontinent

New Delhi, November 08, 2011: Baltic Aviation Academy (Lithuania), a member of European Union, has recently signed an exclusive agreement with “The BIRD Group”, which is one of the largest and most diversified aviation industry entities in India. Under this agreement (which has all requisite govt approvals), Baltic Aviation Academy which provides flight crew training, has appointed Bird as its exclusive representative in the territory of Indian subcontinent covering India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Bhutan.

The Bird Group will be representing Baltic Aviation Academy Flight training services. Services proposed for Indian subcontinent market include Airline Transport Pilot (ATPL) Courses, type rating trainings for Boeing 737-600/700/800/900, Airbus A321/A320/319/318, ATR 42 types of aircraft, full flights simulators dry and wet leasing and additional trainings: Crew resource management courses (CRM), Emergency and safety equipment training (ESET), Real fire fighting and smoke training (RFFT), Water ditching procedures course and training in technical maintenance support. The programmes will be executed at Baltic Aviation Academy operated premises and European full flight simulators network.

Commenting on the partnership, Mrs. Radha Bhatia, Chairperson, Bird Group, said: “From now on our joined forces are capable of offering full package of training solutions which are the most requisite for growing Indian aviation market. By partnering with Baltic Aviation Academy we will be providing airlines with aviation training solutions which are well recognized and have earned the name of reliable companies across Europe. We provide all necessary requirements to fulfil the shortage of aviation professionals by proposing the highest quality services in the market”.

Commenting on the partnership, Egle Vaitkeviciute Chief Officer, Baltic Aviation Academy, said “Asia Pacific commercial aviation market has been experiencing a rapid growth. As a result, billion-dollar aircraft orders resulted in the shortage of professional personnel. Baltic Aviation Academy’s step to Indian market will ensure European quality training services in the local market. We are glad to partner with a credible, reliable and well-acknowledged partner - The Bird Group - which will help to connect our experience in order to cope with prevailing lack of qualified pilots and aviation personnel”.

India is listed as the ninth largest and the fastest growing aviation market in the world. It is expected to climb to top five in the next decade. According to Boeing [Current Market Outlook](#) 2011-2030, the country will require 1150 commercial jets at a price up to \$130 billion over the next 20 years – more than 4% of its worldwide forecast for commercial airplanes. Airbus also expects demand for 1032 commercial aircraft in India in the upcoming two decades. As forecasted by aviation consultancy firm Centre for Asia Pacific Aviation, South Asia’s and Indian carriers will hire at least 5000 professionals – pilots, cabin crew and airport ground personnel.

Baltic Aviation Academy’s decision to cooperate with the Bird Group was based on a surge of interest from ATPL program students from India. Baltic Aviation Academy (Lithuania) experienced 65% growth in information requests from India, showed company’s internal data base analysis, conducted on the period of January 2011-September 2011.

About Bird Group

The Bird Group was founded in 1971 with the incorporation of Bird Travels. Today, with over 40 years of experience and more than 40 offices supported by over 6000 + well trained staff and an impressive clientele of over 500 top corporates, Bird Group can claim to be one of the largest and most diversified entities within the industry in the Indian subcontinent. With businesses as diverse as pioneering back-office processing to being the representative for many of the world’s leading airlines; from managing the backbone of the technological framework for airline IT and distribution to managing crucial relationships of international service providers, Bird Group has ensured that a comprehensive portfolio of service offering has been created to add value to an extensive client base and add new potential customers. And over the last couple of years, Bird Group has taken bold steps to increasing the value offering

while broadening business horizons with new ventures. Today Bird Group's core business includes Travel Technology, Aviation Services, Hospitality, Retail and Education.

For more details please visit: www.bird.in

About Baltic Aviation Academy

More than 10,000 aviation professionals have been trained at the Baltic Aviation Academy. The aviation training centre carries out 44 training programs, including type rating training courses for Boeing 737 CL, Boeing 737 NG, Boeing 747-400, Boeing 757, Boeing 767, Boeing 777, Saab 340/2000, Airbus A320, Airbus A330/A340, ATR 42-72, Bombardier CRJ 100/200, Bombardier CRJ 700/900, Embraer ERJ 135/145, Embraer ERJ 170/190, Dash8Q-400 aircrafts and the initial pilot training school (FTO) courses. Course completion certificates issued by Baltic Aviation Academy are valid in the European Union, Russian Federation, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Israel. Baltic Aviation Academy is part of the Lithuanian aviation company group Avia Solutions Group. Since March 2011, Avia Solutions Group has been listed on Warsaw Stock Exchange (ASG index).

For more details please visit: www.balticaa.com

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