TFC FLIGHT TRAININGE ELEVATES PILOT TRAINING JOURNEY WITH NEW PIPISTREL EXPLORER

News / Maintenance / Trainings

TFC Flight Training has become the first flight school in Germany to operate the Pipistrel Explorer following the delivery of two aircraft from Pipistrel, a Textron Inc. company and affiliate of Textron Aviation. The acquisition deepens the long-standing relationship between the organizations while enhancing TFC's ability to provide a seamless training pathway from ab initio instruction through advanced pilot development.

For more than four decades, Essen-based TFC Käufer has been preparing the next generation of pilots as one of Germany's leading flight training organizations. With a fleet comprising four Pipistrel Velis Electro aircraft and seven Cessna 152s, the academy is now expanding its training capabilities through the introduction of the Pipistrel Explorer. The new aircraft strengthens TFC's structured training pathway, supporting students as they progress into advanced flight operations while providing greater flexibility across the school's training programs.

Christian Käufer, CEO, TFC Flight Training commented: “The Pipistrel Explorer is an additional

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step on our continuous journey to more modern and sustainable pilot training. The Pipistrel Explorer fits seamlessly into our broader strategy at TFC: modern flight training, responsible use of resources and a strong focus on safety and quality.”

Chris Crow, vice president of sales, Pipistrel stated: "In today's training environment, flight schools need aircraft that can support diverse mission requirements while providing students with exposure to modern aviation technology. TFC Flight Training's adoption of the Explorer demonstrates how training organizations are building integrated fleets that support a wider range of student development needs while preparing the next generation of pilots. We are pleased to support TFC as it becomes Germany's first Explorer operator."

The evolution of pilot training is driving greater demand for aircraft that serve distinct training objectives while working together as part of an integrated fleet strategy. TFC's use of both electric and conventionally powered Pipistrel aircraft exposes students to a broader spectrum of technologies and operational environments. With advanced cockpit systems, operational versatility and efficient operating costs, the fleet supports an engaging and well-rounded pathway for the next generation of pilots.

The Explorer is designed to meet the demanding requirements of flight training organizations, combining robust performance with advanced cockpit technology. Capable of supporting cross-country flights, day and night VFR operations, and intentional spin training, the aircraft offers a versatile platform for student pilots. Its dual Garmin G3X glass cockpit, haptic stall warning system, ballistic recovery parachute and AT-1 traffic transponder enhance situational awareness while providing instructors and students with a modern and effective learning environment.

As the first operator of the Explorer in Germany, TFC Flight Training is demonstrating a progressive approach to fleet development, aligning aircraft capabilities with each stage of a pilot's training journey rather than relying on a single training platform. The delivery further reinforces Pipistrel's commitment to supporting flight schools with complementary aircraft solutions that facilitate pilot development from foundational flight instruction through advanced training and skill-building.

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