

Readers of my books regularly ask me for my recommendation or endorsement of flight schools where they can receive quality flight instruction in either basic aerobatics or PPL training and beyond. I can only recommend schools in Australia as I have no direct knowledge of those in other countries. Over the past few years even giving my recommendation within this limited region has become difficult. The inevitable adjustment of standards and methods brought about by the introduction of new people into the business, the depressed economic situation within the industry and the financial pressure that this brings to bear, and the ever increasing weight of bureaucracy have inexorably dragged flight training standards, of almost all of these schools, down to the lowest common denominator. So where do you go to learn how to fly as well as you dreamed you could?

Recently my difficulties in answering that question have been resolved; there is only one flight school 'left standing' that I am now comfortable recommending. It is the "Australian Aerobatic Academy", based at Bankstown Airfield west of Sydney. This school is quite new 'on the scene'. It was started by a guy who once was one of my hotshot young aerobatic students, who, three years ago, decided to give back to future generations of pilots all that he had learned. Six months ago he was joined by another aviator who was a graduate of my first flying instructor course way back in 1990, and who became my longest serving flight instructor when I operated the Sydney Aerobatic School. This guy has been teaching people how to fly, really fly, for a longer period of time now than I have!

Both of these excellent aviators and instructors continue to use the flight training techniques and methods that were the 'cornerstone' of my teaching philosophy for over 20 years. To use a phrase from the Blues Brothers movie, they have "Got the band back together". So am I biased toward these two guys for teaming up again, picking up the 'baton' from me and running with it, and not settling for mediocrity in flight training? Hell yes! Check them out at:

<http://www.aeroacademy.com.au/>