

Friday 20/02/2026

MORNING SESSION: THE FUTURE OF PILOTING & THE MARKET AHEAD

- 10:30-10:40 **Welcome Remarks**

- 10:40-11:10 **«Pilot Demand vs. Training Capacity»**
George Triantafyllidis, Chief Commercial Officer of Egnatia Aviation

- 11:10-11:40 **«Inside a Modern Flight Academy: What Training Really Looks Like in 2026»**
Kasper Valgren, Vice President of Revenue at FlightLogger

- 11:40-12:00 **«What Are the Challenges and Opportunities of Electric Flight Training for the Next Generation?»**
Axel Doffey, Business Development and Sales Manager Europe at H55

MIDDAY SESSION: TRAINING STRATEGY, REALITY & CAREER DECISIONS

- 13:00-13:20 **«From Zero to Hero – a Guide to Successful Pilot Training»**
Capt. Kay Wachtelborn, CEO of SKY4u Aviation Services

- 13:20-13:40 **«A Survivor’s Guide to Your Flight School Selections»**
Pieter Brantegem, B747 pilot and CEO of Skywings

- 13:40-14:00 **«Tips From an Active Pilot on How to Choose Your Employer»**
Capt. Lars Frontini, Chair of the European Cockpit Association Industrial Working Group

- 14:00-14:20 **«Safeguarding Health in the Air and at Work: The Attentia Aviation Medical Approach»**
Dr. Brigitte De Geyter, Head of AeMc, and Dr. Farah Maamer, Team Leader, Attentia Aviation Medical

AFTERNOON SESSION: FLIGHT SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS #1

- 15:10-15:30 **«Flying on Merit: Transforming Pilot Training Through Inclusive Access»**
Andy McFarlane, CEO and Founder of Leading Edge Aviation

- 15:30-15:50 **«Careers in Aviation: Opportunities at KlasJet»**
Sandra Diaso, Head of Human Resources, KlasJet

- 15:50-16:10** **«Grow with Egnatia Aviation»**
Capt. Hugues Carpentier, Head of Training at Egnatia Aviation
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- 16:10-16:30** **«Ryanair Future Flyer Academy at Bartolini Air»**
Nuno Nogueira, Deputy Head of Training, Bartolini Air
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- 16:30-16:50** **«How to Become a Pilot – Wizz Air Pilot Academy»**
Nikki Janssen, Captain at Wizz Air
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- 16:50-17:10** **«From Cadet to Captain – Your Premium Flight Training With AAA Quality»**
Dr. Oliver Karall, CEO & Capt. Thomas Schindler, Head of Training, Austrian Aviation Academy
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- 17:10-17:30** **«5 Reasons Why Avion Express is the Smart Start»**
Agne Dilyte-Sund, Crew People & Culture Recruitment Specialist at Avion Express
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- 17:30-17:50** **«Becoming a Pilot Within Europe's Largest Airline Group»**
Daniel Eisen, Sales Manager at European Flight Academy
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Saturday 21/02/2026

MORNING SESSION: PURPOSE, DRIVE & PERSONAL JOURNEYS

- 10:30-10:50** **«From Desk Job to A320/B737: Reinventing a Career»**
Capt. Jakub Benke, Shareholder of Bartolini Air
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- 10:50-11:10** **«From Passenger to Cargo Pilot»**
Joe Diebold, B747 pilot and famous youtuber "Captain Joe"
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- 11:10-12:00** **Panel Discussion «From Dream to Cockpit – Real Aviation Journeys, Real Challenges»**
Panel members: Daiana Dajulescu, A320 FO (@dajulescudaiana), Ana-Maria Balautescu, Head of Training & Flight Instructor at Cirrus Aircraft Romania (@pilot_anamaria), Adam Tahiri, student pilot (@_flywithadam) and Zacharias Besinis, student pilot (@harrybesinis)

MIDDAY SESSION: FLIGHT SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS #2

- 13:00-13:20** **«Ryanair Future Flyer Academy – Gateway to Your Pilot Career»**
Angelo Currao – Pilot Recruitment Manager of Ryanair
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- 13:20-13:40** **«Sailplanes in Integrated Programmes»**
Christopher Normandale, Sales Manager at Quality Fly Aviation Academy
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- 13:40-14:00** **«Why Airlines Put Their Trust in Us»**
Miroslav Srnec, B777 Captain, B737 TRI/TRE, and Head of Training at F Air, Krista Vandermeulen, CEO at WECAIR
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- 14:00-14:20** **«How to Become a Pilot – Wizz Air Pilot Academy»**
Capt. Nikki Janssen, TRI A320/A321 & Pilot Recruitment Assessor at Wizz Air
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- 14:20-14:40** **«From Training to the Flight Deck - Professional Pilot Pathways in Rome»**
Proff. Lorenzo Mezzadri, Accountable Manager and Founder of Urbe Aero Flight Academy
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- 14:40-15:00** **«Brussels Airlines Cadet Program with Skywings»**
Pieter Brantegem, B747 Pilot and CEO of Skywings, Vincent Verbiest, MPL Coordinator, and Jeremy Rooms, A330 Captain and Pilot Selection Manager at Brussels Airline
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- 15:00-15:20** **«Hillsboro Aero Academy – Flight Training in the US»**
Axel Schmitz, Director of Business Development at Hillsboro Aero Academy
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- 15:20-15:40** **«Pilot the Future»**
Stephanie Dalton, Enrolment Specialist at Emirates Flight Training Academy
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- 15:40-16:00** **«Flying on Merit: Transforming Pilot Training Through Inclusive Access»**
Andy McFarlane, CEO and Founder of Leading Edge Aviation