

Aviation Language Proficiency Test

Background:

- In response to international concerns over the role of language as a causal factor in a number of high profile accidents, ICAO has developed a set of English language proficiency Standards and Recommended Practices for pilots and air traffic controllers operating internationally.
- ICAO's 189 contracting States are required to ensure compliance for licensing of their pilots and controller by March 2008.

Transport Canada's Action:

- Transport Canada has developed a testing standard from, and follows closely the ICAO standards and recommendations. They have trained existing Pilot Examiners to conduct the Aviation Language Proficiency Test to all new applicants.
- As of March 2008, all new applicants for aeroplane and helicopter licences (Private; existing licence holders are being assessed by a review of their file) will need to demonstrate language proficiency as one of the requirements for licence issue.
- Transport Canada, Ottawa has not issued an Advisory Circular about the Aviation Language Proficiency Testing, but it is anticipated to be released soon.

ALPT delegates in the Calgary area are:

1. Richard Alzetta, Bighorn Helicopters
2. Gladys Bowditch, Calgary Flying Club
3. Palma Heming, Freelance Instructor
4. Alan Tay, Calgary Flight Training
5. Eden Vogan, Springbank Aero

For more information go to the Transport Canada website:
www.tc.gc.ca/civilaviation/general/personnel/lang.htm to obtain the names of an Aviation Language Proficiency Tester in your area.