

In the Spotlight

AIM Philadelphia Expands

By Cassandra O'Toole, Career Services

AIM Philadelphia has completed their new training facility, and is now in the process of expanding their construction.

The school will be adding nine new classrooms for potential students, four new offices, and instructor break room and a new storage area.

We have also completed the move of our aircraft from the old hangar to the new one, by lifting them into the air by crane!

With completion of the new construction, AIM Philadelphia hopes to obtain permission from the FAA to increase their student body!



December Graduation!

By Cassandra O'Toole, Career Services

AIM Philadelphia has held its December commencement exercises on December 9th, 2011.

The ceremony consisted of a graduating class of 32 and family members and friends were invited to attend.

The guest speaker for the ceremony was Ed Pears, President of MAG Inc, an aircraft fabrication company who works with contracts for Agusta Westland.

The ceremony also held a remembrance of Alfredo James, a student who had passed upon completion of our program. Rosalind Baldwin gave her sentiments with a statement. The family was also presented with a poster of a collage of Alfredo, and a plaque with a prayer engraved on it.

We also had 13 graduates who received awards for Academic Excellence!





AIM Participates in 2011 Maintenance Skills Competition

By David Jones, AIM Director of Education

The 4th Annual Maintenance Skills Competition was held at the Las Vegas Convention Center on February 23rd and 24th this year. There were 26 teams competing. The competitors represented every major facet of aviation including military, airlines, general aviation, and AMT schools. International competitors this year included Australia, China and Mexico. For the third year, Aviation Institute of Maintenance fielded four teams, with members representing a majority of our 10 locations.

The AMTSociety Maintenance Skills Competition gives teams of licensed AMTs, AMEs, students and Armed Forces personnel an opportunity to test their combined abilities against their peers. The competition provides an opportunity to showcase the knowledge, skill and integrity that each aviation technician possesses.

With increasing visibility, and acknowledging the always present competitive spirit in the aviation shop, teams are being selected by companies and schools from the best of their best. To secure a position on a team in this competition, the technician has been identified as a super performer in their shop. Events designed to test their knowledge, skills and ability to perform under pressure are used to sort the good from the great.

When the dust cleared, AIM Team Atlanta took the second place award in the AMT School Division. This was somewhat disappointing for the Atlanta crew since they had taken home first place in the previous two years. Unseating a two time winner is more reflective of how stiff the competition is getting to be, and less a statement about the teams overall performance. The AIM teams did well, even if they didn't bring home the gold this year. Their performance was high quality, but not quick enough for a timed competition. All of the students came back winners in that they chalked up an experience that very few even get invited to. There was ample opportunity for networking and for the students to see where in the industry they might want to go after graduation.

There is already talk going on at the AIM campuses about how they want to field a sharper honed team next year. It looks like the competition for students aspiring to attend next year's competition will be pretty stiff. Organizers report that event descriptions should be available earlier next year, to give teams more time to prepare. That's good news for the AIM schools, but also means that competing schools have more time too! For more information about of Atlanta's winning team read "History Behind the AIM-Atlanta Skills Team."



In the Spotlight



Timeline:

*Construction over the next 3-4 months
Open for classes around January/February 2011*

***** GROUND BREAKING 2010 –
NEW HANGAR *****

We've broken ground to expand our school by adding a NEW & IMPROVED HANGAR...which will provide new Hangar and Lab space. We are very excited to share this moment with YOU, our students...and look forward to our first Hangar & Lab classes in the new building!

AIM-Philly Starts Student-of-the-Month Program

By Rosalind Baldwin

7/7/10-In January of this year, AIM-Philadelphia started a Student-of-the-Month program. For students to qualify, they first need to have perfect attendance and a grade average of 95 or above.

The students, so far this year are; January- Robert Davis, an outstanding 99.5 grade average; February- Robert Davis, for the second time, and Raymond Franceshini, both had a 98.3 grade average (The reason there are two students was because they were tied and then we did rock, paper, scissors, shoot, and they still tied so we gave it to both of them); March-Ralph Yantz, an impressive 99.75 grade average; and April-Ralph Yantz, again, with an unbelievable 100 percent grade average. (May had not been determined upon submission of the article.)

All students of the month received a plaque and a fifty dollar gift card that are presented during our awards ceremony after each term.



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Philly Campus on a Scholarship Streak

By Kyle Berry

3/24/09 – In November of 2008 the Career Services Coordinator, Cassandra O’Toole, at Aviation Institute of Maintenance in Philadelphia approached the student body with an opportunity to apply for a scholarship from Helicopter Foundation International.

Helicopter Foundation International is a non-profit organization founded in 1983 with the purpose of preserving and promoting the rich history and heritage of the helicopter. They offer scholarships as a way to help future generations of helicopter professionals see the helicopter industry as an exciting and valuable career choice.

After the scholarship presentation Cassandra was approached by students Alim Jordan, Matthew Sides, and Reydavid Cardona all expressing interest in applying for the scholarship. All three students were given the application packet and began the process of completing the application, collecting letters of reference, and writing their essays. During the process of filling out the application the students became discouraged when they realized only six scholarships were going to be awarded and foreign applications were also being accepted. Cassandra continually encouraged the students to follow through with the application, and they did...on December 14, 2008 all three applications were mailed.

As December, January, and February all passed all three students became disheartened that they had not received news of the scholarship award. Finally in early March Alim Jordan came to school and provided Cassandra with a \$2500.00 scholarship award letter he had received from Helicopter Foundation International! We congratulated Alim on his accomplishment and wanted to inform Reydavid Cardona and Matthew Sides of Alim’s success. Only moments later, before we had the chance, both students were in our offices showing us their \$2500.00 scholarship award letters.

These three students showed to themselves and other students that there are organizations and people out in the world who want to see them succeed in their education on their way to a better life and with a little extra effort they can make their road to graduation and a better life a little bit easier.



Matthew Side



Alim Jordan & Reydavid Cardona

In the Spotlight

AIM- Philadelphia Announces New Avionics Technician Program

By Jack Gallagher

2/11/09 – Because aircraft are relying more and more on electronics in every aspect of their operation, the need for trained aviation electronics technicians will keep growing. The new and exciting avionics program here at the Philadelphia AIM has established an unbelievable opportunity for students. Here, they can complete a 20 week program in aircraft electronics that will boost their competitive edge when seeking job placement or advancement.

As of December 8, 2008, the first class began. Through the first two terms, the students have learned all about DC and AC electronics, aircraft wiring, electromagnetism, batteries, alternators, switches and circuit protection, transformers, soldering, binary and hexadecimal numbering systems, digital logic functions, test equipment, circuit troubleshooting, power supplies, basic radio theory, and semiconductor devices. As of this writing, they are now in the third term, learning aircraft communications and navigation.

Hands-on learning is an everyday event as the students build and test electronic circuits, and work with power supplies. The course also includes building an analog multi-meter and an AM radio from a kit. Other challenging lab projects involve bench testing aircraft alternators, wiring a Wheatstone bridge, and using an oscilloscope.

For even more enhancement of opportunity, the program involves testing for and obtaining the NCATT (National Center for Aerospace and Transportation Technologies) AET (Aircraft Electronics Technician) certificate, which is quickly becoming the industry standard. The students will also take the FCC test to obtain the General Radiotelephone Operators License and the optional "Radar" endorsement if so desired.

Sophisticated testing equipment for radios, antenna systems, navigation and auto pilot are on hand and more is on the way. The students get first hand practice using the latest test devices for troubleshooting electronic equipment found on today's modern aircraft.

The avionics training department here at AIM in Philadelphia is looking forward to the challenge of meeting the needs for aviation electronics maintenance. I'm excited, the students are excited and the school director is excited. It will be unbelievable as we continue to build from our knowledge and experience for the future.

