

Aviation English Training for Operational Personnel

29-30th April 2016, Santa Maria Island, the Azores, Portugal

This workshop took place in the Azores, on the island of Santa Maria, under the auspices of APPLA, the Portuguese Pilots' Association. The event was held at the SATA Airlines Training Centre.

All participants were in agreement that this was one of the most successful recent events held by ICAEA.

Its success lay in the new format of the programme (attached) which consisted of eight different, but connected topics over the course of two days. Each topic was introduced via a 15 minute presentation followed by one hour interactive workshops, allowing participants to engage and interact while doing activities during the workshop.

The rationale for the theme was for participants and presenters to exchange experiences and ideas on the training needs for operational personnel in the wake of the ICAO LPRs. Training for operational pilots and controllers poses unique challenges, ranging from learner motivation and needs through to curriculum content and delivery considerations and how instructors need to be able to manage these needs.

The workshop focused on:

- course materials design and implementation
- learner needs and trainer competencies
- learner and operational needs – curriculum development and delivery
- the role of content based learning

Each topic was examined in small groups with real examples from a wide range of international trainers in the field. The mix of Aviation English trainers and operational personnel from 27 different nationalities added to lively exchanges, intense discussions and an enriching exchange of views across the two days.

As a result of feedback on the success of this event format, ICAEA will aim to deliver similar workshop-based events in the future.