

## **Back to Basics: Developing Content based Aviation English**

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*In the second decade after the adoption of the ICAO LPRS, it is time to ask questions regarding the directions in which training is moving: What has been accomplished? What are we getting right? Where are our missteps? Are there gaps in the aviation English training market?*

*ICAO Document 9835 recommends Content-based aviation English as an effective training solution. While not disregarding the case for other communicative approaches to aviation English, such as task-based learning, content-based language learning has strong merit for the aviation industry.*

*As aviation English teaching professionals, it is important that we cultivate a solid understanding of what is meant by ICAO recommended “Content-based aviation English.” What distinguishes content-based aviation English from other aviation English? How do we practitioners know that a text we buy, or a lesson we develop, is content based? Is it “content-based” or aviation “content-flavored?” And why is content based so important anyway?*

*In content-based aviation English lessons, the content of the lesson is at least as important as the language lesson. The language lessons is support to “scaffold” the learners efforts to understand, learn, and use the content.*

*The workshop focused on ways to use authentic aviation content drawn from different sources to provide interesting, relevant, safety-focused content.*

- *Aviation 101: An Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University free, online course designed to introduce people to basic aviation principles;*
- *An RVSM powerpoint lesson from ICAO website;*
- *And a light hearted, ice-breaker activity from an interesting aviation photo.*