

# Academy set to train pilots across world

REGIONAL Express announced yesterday that its Australian Airline Pilot Academy (AAPA), will provide pilot training services for international companies and future airline pilots from across the world.

A ceremony was held in Sydney yesterday for an agreement signing between Jeppesen Australia and AAPA for the provision of pilot training services.

Jeppesen is a leading provider of aviation training services and in partnership with Boeing Training and Flight Services, Jeppesen is working to bring new levels of efficiency and effectiveness to flight crew training worldwide.

AAPA chairman, Jim Davis said the agreement is a new and exciting partnership with a company of high standard and prestige.

"We are absolutely thrilled that a company with the global reputation and prestige of Jeppesen has chosen AAPA as its Australian partner for ab initio pilot training," he said.

"It is a testament to the quality and standard of pilot training at AAPA to have received such an honour."

Richard Low, general manager of Jeppesen Australia, said student pilots would be drawn from fast-growing aviation markets in China, India and the Middle East creating a growing multicultural training centre.

"We envisage more than 80 students a year coming to Wagga to learn to fly," Mr Low said.

"AAPA has a fantastic facility for students to complete their commercial pilots licence and instrument ratings in order to transition to airline jets."

AAPA will train future airline pilots for Jeppesen's client companies all over the world to the standard required for Australian and international commercial pilot licences.

The agreement with Jeppesen will run for three years, commencing from July 2010.

**NEW RELATIONSHIP:** Australian Airline Pilot Academy director Jim Davis and president of Boeing Australia and South Pacific, Ian Thomas, forge a new friendship at the agreement signing yesterday between Jeppesen Australia and AAPA.

