

BCIT TO IMPROVE EFFECTIVENESS OF AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE COURSE WITH NGRAIN 3D VIRTUAL TRAINING

NGRAIN is working with BCIT to take their training to an international audience.

BACKGROUND

The British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) Aerospace Technology Campus offers technical training for aerospace maintenance technicians. Having provided over 7,000 aviation graduates to the aerospace industry, BCIT is one of the top aerospace technical institutes in North America. BCIT's Technology Enabled Knowledge (TEK) initiative is a five-year project to enhance teaching and learning at BCIT through the strategic use of technology. Through TEK, BCIT intends to continue its leadership role in the use of advanced educational and information technologies to provide its students with a world-class technical training curriculum.

CHALLENGE

BCIT seeks to leverage its reputation and know-how to deliver training globally. Due to the cost of instructor travel and language issues, BCIT has recognized that this will require a shift away from their traditional classroom-based training methods to simulation-based distributed learning capabilities.

SOLUTION

BCIT engaged NGRAIN to work on a project to provide virtual training capabilities. NGRAIN developed a virtual task trainer designed to measure improvements in training by comparing student results and course feedback.

The project will enhance the training materials used in the landing gear course. The virtual task trainer covers the assembly and disassembly of the main gear oleo (including bleeding, refilling and pressurization) and main brake of the Piper Aztec landing gear. The virtual task trainer will allow students to:

- Familiarize themselves components using a virtual 3D model of the landing gear
- Acquire task-based skills by viewing 3D procedural animations
- Practice and test their skills by performing the procedures on virtual equipment using hands-on task practice



Virtual task trainer of Piper landing gear

RESULTS

The NGRAIN-enabled virtual training will be added to the curriculum in the fall of 2007. It will be featured in one of the new multimedia classrooms at the BCIT Aerospace Technology Campus. BCIT intends to expand the use of NGRAIN 3D virtual training in both the local classroom and for training their growing global customer base.

"BCIT is advancing the use of instructional technology and rich, interactive media to enhance teaching and learning," said Dr. Verna Magee-Shepherd, acting president of BCIT. "Our partnership with NGRAIN and adoption of their innovative software accelerates our use of 3D knowledge objects to enhance BCIT's world-class aerospace curriculum with 3D modeling and simulation capabilities."

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