

PRESS RELEASE

Six Business aviation companies are ready to pilot S.T.A.R.S. and help accelerate sustainability across the industry

Brussels/ Montreal, 19 July 2021 -- Today, the **European Business Aviation Association (EBAA)** and the **International Business Aviation Council** announce the launch of a comprehensive pilot programme for S.T.A.R.S. - **Standards & Training for Aviation Responsibility and Sustainability**. The pilot aims to evaluate the clarity and feasibility of the first of three tiers of the International Business Aviation Council (IBAC)-supported framework for social and environmental standards to be implemented by aircraft operators and companies across the Business aviation value chain.

The pilot, which runs from June to December 2021, is being conducted by six major European Business aviation companies (*in alphabetical order*):

Air Charter Service UK

CAT Aviation

FLYINGGROUP

Luxaviation

Time to Fly

A Swiss corporate flight department

The S.T.A.R.S. mission is to introduce, for the first time, broad-based industry-wide practices that will supplement the existing globally recognized International Standard for Business Aircraft Operations (IS-BAO) and International Standard for Business Aircraft Handling (IS-BAH) for safety, as well as be made available standalone for organisations that do not operate aircraft, manage FBOs or provide ground-handling services as part of their activities. The three-tiered sustainability accreditation employs a thorough auditing process conducted by industry professionals to ensure the integrity of the accreditation.

*"S.T.A.R.S. has set an ambitious goal to provide social and environmental guidance to all Business aviation companies globally," says **EBAA Secretary-General Athar Husain Khan**. "This Pilot is putting that promise into practice by ensuring that all Business aviation organisations can implement and comply with even the most fundamental environmental and social guidelines, such as appointing designated sustainability officers, establishing diversity, inclusion and non-discrimination policies, implementing voluntary carbon offsetting programmes and increasingly more as they progress up the tiers."*

*"We are excited to launch this Pilot and thank these six innovative businesses for their participation and support," **Bruce Parry, EBAA Senior Manager Environment, and S.T.A.R.S. Programme Sponsor**, explains. "By integrating key sustainable practices into existing industry standards for operations (IS-BAO) and ground handling (IS-BAH), we can all contribute to a better future for Business aviation and the communities we serve."*

“S.T.A.R.S. will provide a vital framework for members of the Business aviation community to contribute to the broad range of sustainability needs as outlined in the UN Sustainable Development Goals,” Kurt Edwards, IBAC Director General adds. “Experiences in the Pilot will allow us to refine the sustainability best practices, and we can begin to roll out the S.T.A.R.S. programme across Europe in 2022 and globally by 2024.”

S.T.A.R.S. was created in 2018 by young Business aviation professionals from across Europe. Suited for small and large Business aviation companies alike, it aims to help organisations address the social and environmental challenges outlined in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). More information about S.T.A.R.S can be found [here](#).

Contact

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About EBAA

The European Business Aviation Association (EBAA) is the leading organisation for operators of business aircraft in Europe. Our mission is to enable responsible, sustainable growth for Business aviation, enhance connectivity and create opportunities. EBAA Works to improve safety standards and share knowledge, to further positive regulation and to ease all aspects of closely tailored, flexible, point to point air transportation for individuals, governments, businesses and local communities in the most time-efficient way possible.

Founded in 1977 and based in Brussels, EBAA represents +700 members companies, corporate operators, commercial operators, manufacturers, airports, fixed-based operators, and more, with a total fleet of more than 1,000 aircraft. We provide more than 50 products and services to the Business aviation community, including the European Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (EBACE), Europe’s largest Business aviation trade show.

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About IBAC

IBAC represents the interests of Business aviation worldwide. IBAC is a non-profit, international trade association with official observer status at the International Civil Aviation Organization, the UN Specialized Agency for aviation matters, in Montreal, Canada. IBAC promotes and manages the industry-leading standards for best safety practices through its International Standard for Business Aircraft Operations (IS-BAO™); International Standard for Business Aviation Handling (IS-BAH™); Safety Management Tool Kit; SMS eLearning training; and Aircrew Identification Card.

<http://www.ibac.org>