



# Flight Simulation Australia

A support base for Australian virtual pilots

June 18, 2021



If you have read the Article of the Week, you will have seen that the launch of Flight Simulation Association (FSA) triggered some heated debate. The backlash primarily concentrated on FSA's introduction of a \$30 annual subscription which stimulated flight sim users to express their dislike for a paywall behind much of the FSA website content.

I have looked at the comments posted on the FSA Facebook page and elsewhere and from where I sit I believe many have missed the point. Evan Reiter, a co-founder of FSA, has acknowledged that discounts from top developers can be gained at different times and at different locations. Similarly learning resources for beginning simmers can be accessed on YouTube. The best of these are spread across the net and not highlighted in a convenient central location such as the FSA website.

But the subscription fee issue is not about having to pay for access to a pile of discounts from top developers. As Evan has stated, "The intention here is to build something for the future," and it is here that the nay sayers have missed the point regarding FSA's forward-thinking enterprise.

Some twenty years ago when I was involved in education, an institute (or association) for teachers was established. Its



### Article of the Week

This week's article is '[Flight Simulation Association's Launch Met with Harsh Backlash](#)', by Threshold's Alex John, March 11, 2021.

The article deals with some of the criticisms of the Flight Simulation Association (FSA) business model. In particular it outlines the backlash against the \$30 annual subscription which has been the subject of heated debate.

Commentary on this debate is given in this week's Editorial.



### [The Instrument Landing System \(ILS Approach\)](#)

Possibly one of the most gratifying feelings in flight simulation is the experience of performing a good landing. How many of us in our early days of simming have been frustrated at our attempts with constant porpoising, burning lots of tyre tread or experiencing the dreaded crash on landing.



Website of the Week

Our featured website this week is another Aussie commentator in the flight sim world [Novawing24](#) (aka Tristan) is an Australian self-confessed, highly opinionated YouTube content creator with flair for the over dramatic and a focus on the flight simulation genre. He believes passionately in the power of the individual in the flight sim community. Believing that giving back to the community is important, he provides open and honest commentary and feedback on developments in the simulation genre via his weekly NovaWrap series and his Three Grumpy Flyers segment.

Tristan is also a texture artist, an example of which is his 6-texture sets for MSFS depicting various aircraft operated by the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) which are available for sale at a starting price \$5.00 each from his Gumroad store. Fifty-percent of sales goes to the RFDS.



Nice paint of the latest livery on the RFDS King Air 350I, VH-VPQ,

primary function to ensure only registered teachers practice, develop the standards of professional practice, support teachers in their first two years of teaching and maintain standards in pre-service teacher education courses. It acts as a supporting voice for the whole teaching profession.

I recall well the outcry that took place when many teachers riled against the requirement for a \$75 annual registration fee. "What can the Institute do for me" was the common cry. Those who cried loudest thought more about their hip pocket than the advancement of the profession in which they practiced. At the time a prevailing attitude existed that teachers were independent agents once the classroom door was closed. This was detrimental to the profession as a whole.

Those who complained could not see the big picture: the maintenance of standards, on-going professional development, the advancement of the profession as a whole, and, most importantly, improved outcomes for students.

A similar situation exists with the debate over a registration fee for FSA membership. FSA's long-term objective is 'to build a community-driven organization that can help grow the hobby . . . to achieve the type of advocacy shown by real-world pilot organizations.' The subscription fee goes towards the advancement of this aspiration and subscribers support the mission to grow the community.

Flight simulation is no different to any other pastime considered as a hobby or interest. People have no hesitation in paying hundreds or even thousands of dollars to be members of sporting clubs, or even professional associations. Such fees cover the cost of providing services to its members and in large part are not-for-profit organisations. So, a mere



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Well a smooth, controlled landing, or 'greaser', is achievable. When it comes to landing an aircraft under IFR conditions there are two types of approaches – precision and non-precision approaches. In this module we look at, in some detail, the precision approach utilising the instrument landing system (ILS) approach. We will look at the components of the ILS and how to fly the approach and also examine the charts associated with performing one. This theoretical tutorial section is followed up by a practical step-by-step application of this type of landing in the FS default Boeing 737-800 in a flight from Canberra to Melbourne, Australia.

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\$30 a year is a pittance in comparison. It is an investment in the future and a tangible means of showing support to Evan and Phil in their achievement of the concept of bringing the flight simmers together under one roof.

Flight Simulation Australia has made a considered commitment to long-term support of Flight Simulation Association.

Greg Whiley (CaptAus)  
18 June, 2021

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