



RAF CRANWELL - LINCOLNSHIRE

Elementary Flying and Multi-Engine Pilot Training Instructor Roles

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Our passion is for training, helping our customers realise their potential and deliver their Mission

Our people are the most important part of the training solutions we provide.

Ascent is seeking Elementary Flying Training (EFT) and Multi-Engine Pilot Training (MEPT) instructors at RAF Cranwell. We are looking to fill flying and non-flying roles including Qualified Flying Instructors (QFIs) and Qualified Synthetic Flying Instructors (QSFIs).

You would be permanently based at RAF Cranwell in Lincolnshire – the heart of Royal Air Force Officer and Flying Training, with a proud tradition of training excellence. It retains a strong identity, atmosphere, culture and community spirit and Ascent is proud to be part of that community.

For aircrew with the necessary levels of experience and expertise, we will pay you to convert onto the Prefect T1 (the UK military version of the Grob 120TP) or the Phenom T1 (based on the Embraer Phenom 100) and train you to become a Central Flying School (CFS) approved Qualified Flying Instructor.

"We are happy to engage with candidates from all backgrounds and experience who are interested in our roles."

This is a fantastic opportunity to do what you love doing, in a military environment, and help train the next generation of military pilots and aircrew.

As either a flying or synthetic instructor you will deliver a varied and exciting syllabus across a variety of courses. These range from the very earliest elementary exercises, through to more applied skills and techniques, including Low Flying, Advanced and Procedural Instrument Flying and Close and Tactical Formation Flying.

We offer a managed pathway for military personnel looking to transition seamlessly into civilian employment and are happy to engage with candidates from all backgrounds and experience who are interested in our roles.



Requirements and benefits

As an instructor you will have:

- A driven focus on safety and assurance
- Strong values of respect, resilience and integrity
- High professional standards
- Proven flying skills and experience
- A forward-leaning approach to commercial relationships
- A desire to be part of a world-class team, delivering exceptional flying training

Application requirements:

ESSENTIAL

- MEPT
Multi Engine Pilot Instructional Qualification
- EFT
Minimum of 500 hours CPL and FI, or military equivalent

In exceptional circumstances candidates without an FI or military instructor category will be considered

What are the benefits?

- Conversion onto Type (Prefect T1 or Phenom T1/ Ground Based Training Equipment – Flying Training Devices)
- CFS (internationally recognised centre of excellence) Instructor category
- Working in partnership with our military partners
- Bolstering UK Defence by delivering the next generation of military pilots
- Equivalent to 25 days annual leave plus bank holidays (extra days with length of service)
- Private AXA health care for you and your family
- Private BUPA dental care, extendable to your family
- Competitive company pension plan
- Life Assurance (up to 3x your annual salary)
- Flexible benefits (buying and selling holiday, cycle2work scheme, retail discounts, EV Lease scheme)
- Enhanced maternity and paternity leave and pay
- Enhanced company sick pay, which increases with length of service
- Employee Assistance Programme (24/7 free and confidential legal and wellbeing advice)
- Individual learning and development plan
- Mental health support and subscription to the Unmind platform for you and a plus one



Why Ascent

Ascent has been a trusted provider of innovative training systems for more than 16 years. Since 2008, we have designed and delivered world-class, bespoke training for the armed services, through the UK Military Flight Training System (UKMFTS).

A joint venture between Lockheed Martin and Babcock International, Ascent employs 410+ staff across six UK sites, designing, developing and delivering training, technology products and technical services.

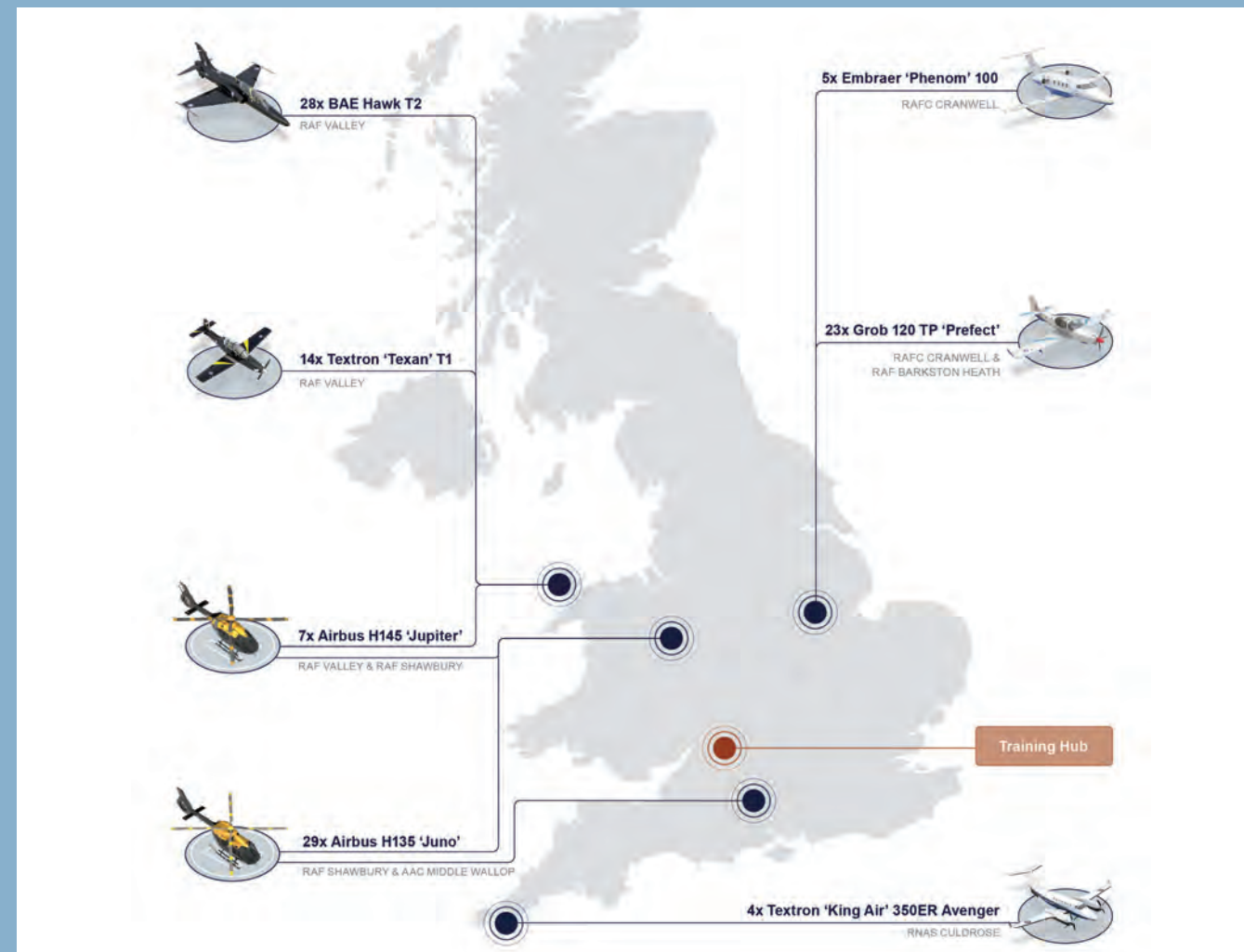
We pride ourselves on our strong partnerships and understanding of our customers' needs, offering bespoke turnkey training solutions that generate mission-ready teams, through our unique blend of live and synthetic training.

Ascent trains UK Armed Forces' fast jet, multi-engine and rotary wing pilots and rear-crew/mission aircrew, through Elementary, Basic and Advanced Flying Training. We currently

operate a fleet of 110 aircraft and over 100 simulators at our modern training centres, delivering more than 500 next generation combat leaders to FTUs/OCUs annually, in addition to over 100 instructor qualification upgrades. By May 2024 - as part of UKMFTS - we have flown more than 160,000 accident-free flight hours and 110,000 simulation hours, across our sites.

At Ascent, our Cultural Values - Courage, Teamwork, Integrity and Empowerment & Accountability - are rooted in respect, for our employees, our partners and our customers. That's why championing diversity and inclusion is so important to us. When we embrace different perspectives and give everyone the chance to be the best they can be, we can think in new, creative ways that grow and enhance our business.

We are committed to equal opportunities for all. We pride ourselves on being a Disability Confident Committed Employer and are a signatory of the Women in Defence Charter.



2003

Invitation to negotiate for Training Service Partner (TSP)



2008

Advanced Jet Trainer contract signed between MOD & Ascent

2010

Rear Crew Stage 1 contract signed



2011

Strategic Defence and Security Review 10 changes size and profile of the program

2012

Rear Crew training commences RAF Barkston Heath, RNAS Culdrose

Advanced Fast Jet phase 4 training commences at RAF Valley

2012-2014

Industry engaged in Rotary Wing and Fixed Wing competition



2016

Strategic Defence and Security Review 15 increases the size of the programme

Fixed Wing & Rotary Wing contracts awarded

2018

Rotary Wing training commences

Elementary flying training commences

2019

Multi Engine training commences Basic flying training begins

Rotary Wing Strategic Defence and Security Review 15 Contract Award

2020

Rear Crew Stage 1 Ext

Full Capability Commencement Milestone



2021

Strategic Defence and Security Review Fixed Wing Award

2023

Rear Crew Stage 1 Sustainment programme commences

EDF Energy and Bristows Training Contract

2026*

Future ISTAR Rear Crew Training System (FIRCTS)



Heritage

RAF Cranwell provides both Elementary and Advanced Multi Engine Training using the Prefect T1 and the Phenom T1.

As part of EFT

You will work collaboratively alongside 57 Sqn, which has a long and distinguished history. Formed on 8 June 1916, the squadron was principally a bomber squadron, flying both the Vickers Wellington and the Avro Lancaster throughout WW2, with over 5,000 operational sorties for the loss of 172 aircraft. The squadron went on to be a key bomber squadron throughout the Cold War, flying the Victor and the Vulcan bombers.

Since 1992, 57 Sqn has operated the Hercules transport aircraft and conducted Elementary Training on the Grob Tutor and Grob Prefect.

"Ascent is very proud to work with these squadrons - which have rich and unique histories - and we aim to maintain their high standards."

As part of MEPT

You will work alongside 45 Sqn, which is among the few RAF units to see WW2 combat against German, Italian, Vichy French and Japanese forces. Aircraft flown include the Sopwith Camel, Bristol Blenheim, Vultee Vengeance, Bristol Brigand, Hawker Hunter FGA9, Panavia Tornado and Beechcraft King Air.

Ascent is very proud to work with these squadrons - which have rich and unique histories - and we aim to maintain their high standards.



Why Lincolnshire

Location

There are lots of exciting things to see and do in Lincolnshire – a county of contrasts. From the rolling Lincolnshire Wolds, boasting an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, historic market towns and villages, to an award-winning coastline, varied entertainment, and Britain's Best Small City, there's something for everyone. With typically a lower cost of living, and house prices below the national average, Lincolnshire is a wise choice for relocation.

RAF Cranwell is the spiritual home of the RAF and the world's first independent Air Force and oldest Flying Training School. Ascent is proud to continue this tradition. Located in the heart of the East Midlands, Cranwell is set in a rural location, yet enjoys excellent road and rail links, making commuting easy. The A1 and the East Coast Mainline Railway are just a short distance away, with travel from Grantham to London in just over an hour.

With Fast Jet and Multi-Engine operational airfields nearby, trainees from Cranwell are exposed to busy and dynamic airspace from day one of their training, with easy access to Controlled Airspace and busy international airfields also well within reach.

Family

The local area offers excellent opportunities for family life, with all the benefits of flying in a challenging environment, without the formality of military duties and additional responsibilities, and with a settled work-life balance. This allows ample time to focus on what truly matters in life.

For those of us with children, there are some fantastic schools that teach a wide variety of subjects, with 'traditional' Grammar Schools still thriving in the local area.

If you would like to come and see for yourself, please don't hesitate to ask us to arrange a visit.

"RAF Cranwell is the spiritual home of the RAF and the world's first independent Air Force and oldest Flying Training School."



Instructors' views

Nigel Scopes MEPT Chief Pilot

“Much is familiar to me from my time as a student flying the Jet Provost from Cranwell back in the 1980s, and yet much has also changed for the better. The modern facilities in our Sykes Building, for example, represent a quantum change in the quality and usability of the infrastructure. The Ground-Based Training Equipment, particularly the Phenom Full Flight Simulator, enables us to deliver high fidelity training both in the air and on the ground.

The Phenom itself is a joy to fly – fabulous instrumentation and automation allow us to expose our trainees to the full gambit of procedural flying, both in the UK and Northern Europe. The aircraft also provides plenty to challenge the trainees in terms of handling - not least in a busy mixed visual circuit here at Cranwell.

While a capable and versatile 'business jet' in its own right, the Phenom 100 in the military guise of the Phenom T1 is also an excellent platform for teaching Low Flying and Close Formation handling. Indeed, the syllabus culminates in a Simulated Mission Profile, where trainees plan and execute a pairs landaway sortie, including Low Flying and Close Formation on both the outbound and inbound sectors.

Flying alongside our military colleagues within 45 Squadron has allowed me to combine the most enjoyable aspects of my previous military flying and instructing career, with all the benefits of working for a modern, innovative company.

If this sounds like something you would want to be a part of, then get in touch!

Tariq Lewis Prefect QFI

“Since joining Ascent in mid-2022, I can say that my time continues to be thoroughly rewarding, challenging and enjoyable.

I joined Ascent having flown aerobatics and instructed out of a civilian flying school in London. I was also flying a Pilatus PC-12 out of London to various European destinations. These experiences helped me through the conversion to Prefect and subsequently my CFS Instructor category. I enjoyed the course immensely, as I saw my skills develop and learnt the military way of doing things. But make no mistake, it's a challenging course that will continually test you in a variety of ways!

The Prefect is a fantastic aircraft to fly. It combines manoeuvrability, power and stability, to provide a platform that is as useful as it is fun. Put this together with its modern avionics suite and Prefect is a great platform for us to teach the EFT syllabus, including Multi-Engine Lead In and Fast Jet Lead In courses.

I am based at RAF Barkston Heath and am fully integrated within the squadron structure, working alongside military counterparts. I have no doubt that the richness of experience provided by military and civilian QFIs working side by side, benefits all on 57 Squadron, students and QFIs alike.



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