

## BCC's Professional Pilot degree introduces new Cirrus planes



Broward Community College's partner and flight training provider Delta Connection Academy (DCA), a subsidiary of Delta Air Lines, has announced that it will purchase 50 Cirrus SR20 aircraft for use at the flight school. One Cirrus airplane was on display at North Perry Airport at the annual Aviation Institute open house "Wings, Wheels and Waves" on February 17.

The Cirrus SR20 is the most technologically advanced primary trainer aircraft in the world, providing students a realistic, airline-style flight training environment. One of its main features is a fully integrated electronic instrument display system (better known as "glass cockpit") coupled with GPS and autopilot capabilities.

The Cirrus SR20 is only the tip of the iceberg among the changes that Delta Connection Academy has in store for our program at BCC. To fully take advantage of the new technology, DCA is completely redesigning the FAA-approved flight training curriculum. At the core of the new program will be "scenario-based" training which will help students in developing better decision-making skills in addition to the basic piloting skills. The Federal Aviation Administration has already approved the concept under its new FAA/Industry Training Standards (FITS) initiative. DCA is also adding state-of-the-art simulators, and it is expected that the new Cirrus airplanes, FITS curriculum, and simulators will be in place at Broward Community College by the fall 2007.