

AVEMCO Shares Experience With Student Pilots

Frederick, MD (September 21, 2005)...

Every aviator starts as a student, and Avemco, the only direct writer of general aviation insurance in the U.S., is helping every new student progress into becoming a responsible member of the flying fraternity.

To that end, Avemco is sponsoring the production of *The Student Pilots' Model Code of Conduct*. Written by Michael Baum, the code is designed to improve pilot safety, flying excellence, and the general aviation community. Avemco is mailing the publication to every new student pilot.

Jim Lauerman, Avemco's Executive Vice President and Chief Underwriting Officer, said, "Avemco is committed to promoting safe flying for everyone, and student pilots are the gateway to the future. It is important that students build good habits and attitudes early in their experience, and our intent is to introduce them to the culture, safety, security, and responsibility that aviators practice, even as those students are learning the basic stick-and-rudder skills." He hopes that, "Early introduction to these attributes, including – good judgment, safe passenger practices, and constructive attitude – will internalize these principles of flight in the students' minds, not just during their primary training but throughout their flying careers."

Fashioned after the more-comprehensive *Aviators' Model Code of Conduct*, the *Student Code* is an introduction to the most important steps a new pilot can take to advance a safe pilot's mindset. The principles also cover pilot courtesy and the pursuit of personal improvement, so that the new pilot can quickly contribute to the aviation culture. Awareness of environmental impacts of GA flight (spanning from poor fuel sampling practices to insensitivity to the airports' neighbors) is another factor that will increase a sense of public responsibility.

If one provision in the *Student Code* sums up its spirit, it is: Pursue a rigorous, life-long course of aviation study. This encompasses flying skills, safety, security, and attitude – all essential attributes of a satisfying lifetime of flying. Student pilots are encouraged to work with their CFIs to integrate the Student Code into their training. A downloadable pdf of the publication can be found on www.avemco.com/briefingroom.

Avemco Insurance Company, the leading pleasure and business general aviation insurer in the United States, has been insuring planes and pilots since 1961. Headquartered in Frederick, Maryland, Avemco is rated A+ (Superior) by A. M. Best Company, and AA (Very Strong) by Standard & Poor's. Avemco is a wholly-owned subsidiary of **HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc.** (NYSE symbol: HCC), an international insurance holding company and a leading specialty insurance group since 1974, based in Houston, Texas with offices across the USA and in Bermuda, England and Spain.

Contact: Laretta Godbey, AVP
Avemco Insurance Company
Telephone: (800) 752-4208
www.avemco.com

Avemco sponsors the *Student Pilots' Model Code of Conduct* as a service to the general aviation community. Avemco neither assumes any responsibility for the accuracy of this information nor any liability arising out of reliance upon its contents.

