



News about Piedmont. The Up-And-Coming Airline.

Preparations for F28s A company-wide project

Even though the first F28 isn't scheduled for service until April 1, people in virtually every area at Piedmont have already begun to prepare for the new aircraft.

Initial training began this fall when 26 employees, hand-picked for this special project, flew to Amsterdam to familiarize themselves with the Fokker aircraft. Maintenance personnel, pilots, dispatchers, and ground school instructors attended classes at Fokker in their respective fields. They, in turn, are writing programs and setting up classes in order to

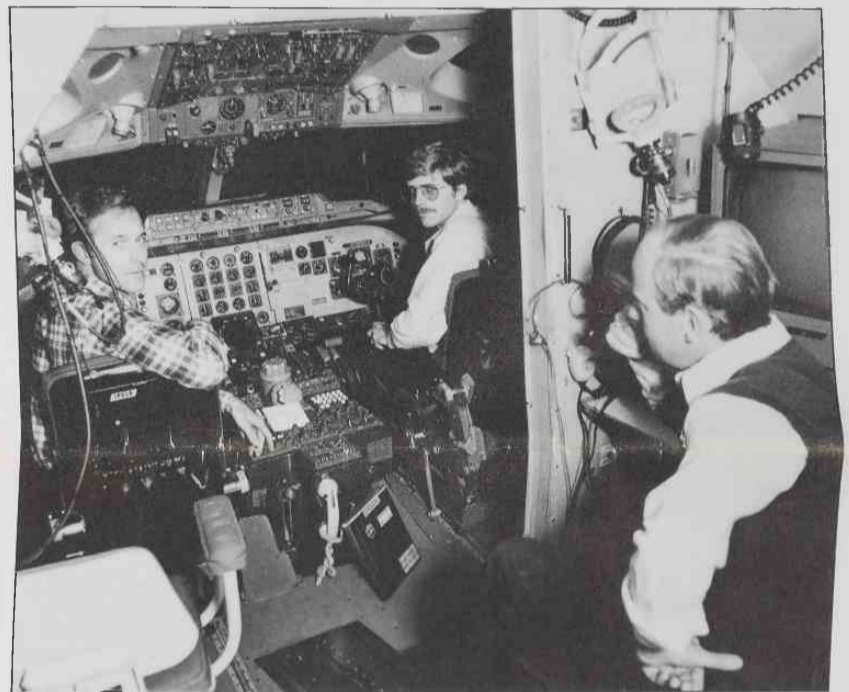
pass on their expertise to others at Piedmont.

"Bringing in a new aircraft is a big job all the way around," Bill Hall, director-training, INT, said.

"A tremendous amount of work goes into writing the various programs. First the FAA has to approve our programs, both the number of hours required and the subject material to be taught. Then we can begin training our people.

"Everyone's very enthusiastic about the aircraft," Hall added. "I think it will be a moneymaker for Piedmont."

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Fokker instructor Arie Verhoef trains Piedmont pilots Ted Restel (left) and John Cox in an F28 simulator. Restel is manag-

er of the F28 training program and Cox is an F28 instructor.

'83 a Year Of Pride in Piedmont

We can look back upon a year of growth and profitability in 1983. These are remarkable achievements, because we set great tasks and goals for ourselves at a time when most of our industry was seeking to simply "get along."

We embarked upon a course of growth at the outset of the year. That is not new for Piedmont. But neither is it something that should be taken for granted. The growth of an airline requires planning, new facilities, new equipment, and new people. It involves training and coordination of a wide array of skills, perhaps a wider array than any other major industry. In sum, our people had to make that growth happen. And you did.

We will end 1983 with well over 11 million passengers served. We will have a fleet of 85 modern jet aircraft in service. We have new general aviation subsidiaries functioning smoothly as part of our team. Our work force will have grown to a family of 10,000 dedicated men and women. These facts were unimaginable a few years ago. But today they are as real as your home and your family, and almost as important to us.

You should take pride in these accomplishments, and share that sense of pride with the fine people who make Piedmont what it is.

There are more and trying challenges ahead of us. We have not come this far to stop and rest on our laurels now. But, working together with concern for one another and our customers, we will continue to prosper and amaze our industry.

On behalf of your directors and officers, and all your fellow employees, I wish each of you and your families a Merry Christmas and Most Happy New Year.

William R. Howard

President and Chief Executive Officer