

Simulator unveiled

Piedmont Airlines unveiled the world's first 737-300/400 flight simulator at a September 6 ceremony with manufacturers of the simulator and its visual system, and several members of the news media at the company's new flight training center in Charlotte.

The state-of-the-art 737-300/400 training simulator is the first of its kind to provide full-color day and night scenes by using the latest computer-generated image visual system—VITAL VII—developed by McDonnell Douglas.

"The highly advanced VITAL VII system that we selected for our Boeing 737-300/400 training program represents the leading edge of flight simulation technology," said Captain C.D. McLean, staff vice president-flight training.

Piedmont, the first airline to utilize VITAL VII in its simulator training program, was the launch customer for the new Boeing 737-400 jet aircraft.

The new simulator unit is housed alongside the company's three other flight simulators—a 737-200, 737-300, and 727-200—at the new 80,000 square-foot training facility at Charlotte/Douglas International Airport.

The VITAL VII image visual system, incorporated on a simulator manufactured by CAE Electronics Ltd. of Montreal, is a full daylight, dusk and night system designed to meet all levels of



Jack Soldo (l to r), McDonnell Douglas VITAL project director; Captain C.D. McLean, Piedmont staff vice president-flight training; and Al Becker, CAE Electronics program manager, cut the ribbon at the unveiling of the first Boeing 737-300/400 simulator at the training center in CLT.

Federal Aviation Administration and Civil Aviation Authority training requirements.

Both McDonnell Douglas and CAE Electronics were on hand at the Charlotte press conference when it was officially announced that the new unit was fully operational.

"VITAL VII incorporates full raster technology which provides unsurpassed scene quality and stability," said John Watson, director of the VITAL project for McDonnell Douglas. "Its modular design allows growth by adding modules for texture, smooth surface shading, high resolution, and calligraphic lightpoints."

VITAL VII provides a gap-free field of view of 88 degrees horizontal and 36 degrees vertical for

both the pilot and co-pilot positions. The image visuals simulate standard airport features such as runways, taxiways, hangars, ground support equipment, as well as ground traffic hazards. The system also offers a complete range of marginal weather training with a full range of visibility effects such as clouds, rain, fog, and haze. Icy and snow-covered runway conditions also are provided.

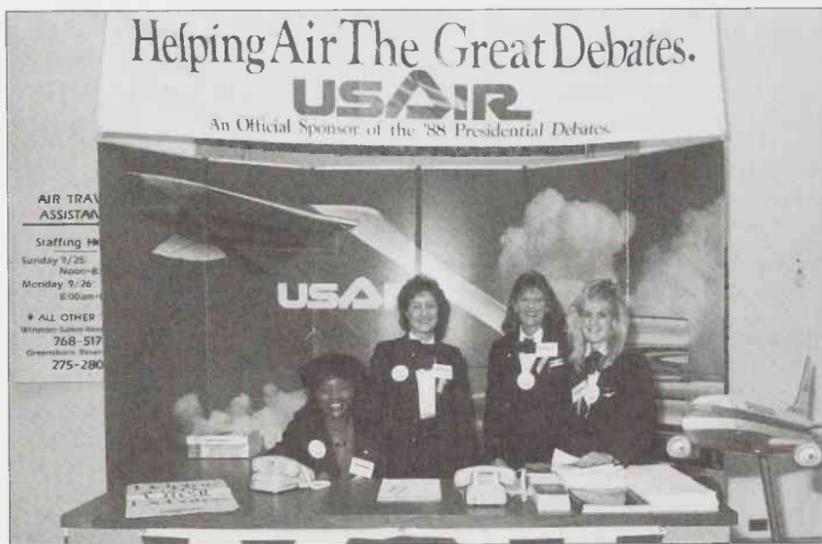
"Our pilots in training will benefit greatly by this new system as it provides the most realistic training environment ever available in a flight simulator," McLean said.

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USAir Group helps air debate in INT



Piedmont Reservations Supervisors (l to r) Sharon Miller and Maria Vlahos, Piedmont Flight Attendant Susan Millard, and USAir Flight Attendant Peggy Rutkauskas assisted customers with reservations and travel plans at the travel assistance desk set up by USAir at the site of the Presidential debate.

USAir Group, Inc., parent company of sister airlines USAir and Piedmont, was the lead local sponsor of the 1988 Presidential Debate at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC, September 25.

USAir's cash grant of \$100,000 was the largest corporate grant received by the University and helped Wake Forest and Winston-Salem secure selection as the site of the first debate of this year's Presidential campaign.

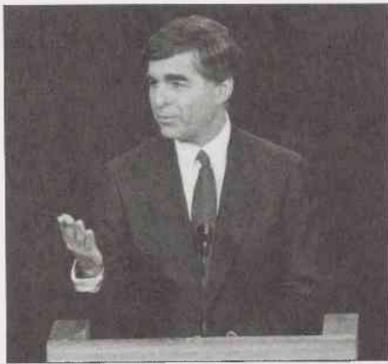
To make it convenient for the thousands of Triad visitors to make or revise air travel plans during the debate, the two Winston-Salem Piedmont/USAir ticket offices remained open on the weekend of the debate.

In addition, a Piedmont/USAir travel assistance desk was located at the media center in the main lobby of Reynolda Hall, adjacent to the media credentials desk and directly across the Quad from Wait Chapel, site of the debate. Piedmont and USAir flight attendants and reservations personnel staffed the desk, also to assist customers in making or revising travel plans.

Piedmont and USAir employees at the three locations, as well as at the Piedmont Triad International and Smith Reynolds Airports, were all wearing large buttons proclaiming the USAir debate theme, "Helping Air the Great Debates."



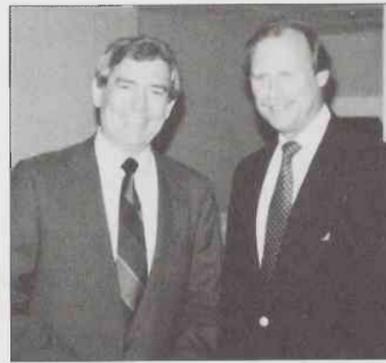
Republican Presidential candidate Vice President George Bush



Democratic Presidential candidate Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis



USAir Group President and Chief Executive Officer (left) Ed Colodny, his wife Nancy, and Wake Forest President Thomas Hearn visit before the debate.



District Sales Manager (right) Bob Joiner assists CBS anchorman Dan Rather at the Sheraton North city ticket office. Rather was complimentary of our first-class service.