

# SMART Profile

## Canada Wings Aviation Training Centre



Chief ground school instructor Ken Baker uses the SMART Board for Flat-Panel Displays interactive whiteboard during a pre-flight briefing.

## Technology enhances flying training at Canada Wings Aviation Training Centre

Canada Wings Aviation Training Centre provides training and support for students of Canada's Air Force and pilots from around the world. Their mandate is to ensure that trained pilots possess the skills, knowledge and professional attributes to proceed to an operational flying unit.

Canada Wings provides flying training for multi-engine aircraft, rotary wing (helicopter) and ab initio (primary) flight training in Southport, Manitoba, Canada. At the Wing Commander Hilly Brown Building, a state-of-the-art facility designed specifically to support aircrew training, students undergo aircrew ground school, simulation training and receive briefings and debriefings for training missions, all with the assistance of interactive technology products from SMART Technologies.

Four primary classrooms and the theater are equipped with Sympodium™ DT770 interactive pen displays. Connected to a computer and a projector, the DT770 enables instructors to face the audience and interact with the material on a display at the front of the room, while students simultaneously view the same content on a large screen. The dual-touch functionality allows instructors to use a finger or a pen to control the computer and the room-control system via the large, 17" (43.2cm) display.

Flight instructors were quick to appreciate the advantages of the DT770 in presenting their new courseware to students. The technology eases the instructor's workload while presenting Computer Assisted Training (CAI) to classes. The touch screen functionality means instructors don't have to use the mouse to roll the cursor over the hot spot to reveal an answer to a question. Chief ground school instructor, Ken Baker points out that an average CAI lesson requires 70 of these actions, making the use of a mouse a laborious task. With the DT770, the instructor only needs to touch the screen, making the flow of the lesson much smoother. Additional commands, such as navigating through the lesson, are also easier.

"The DT770 allows instructors to view the material presented on the screen behind them without looking back," says Baker. "The colored pens offer the most practical and precise way to draw, circle items, or point out particular issues. The Sympodium interactive pen display makes presenting the courseware much more dynamic and so much easier – it would be hard to part with it now."

Forty briefing rooms and three classrooms are also equipped with 50" SMART Board for Flat-Panel Displays interactive whiteboards. The protective overlay adds interactive whiteboard functionality to their plasma display panels, enabling instructors to control any computer application or write in digital ink and then save their work to print, e-mail or post online.

The interactive whiteboards in the briefing rooms help the instructors to interact with the courseware quickly and easily, making the pre-flight and post-flight briefings that much easier to give and to receive. Chief flying instructor for primary training, Roger Delanghe, says, "Touching the screen to activate an animation, drawing on the presentation to emphasize a point or navigating to the next page is effortless and allows for a more professional briefing to be given."

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**Ken Baker,**  
chief ground  
school instructor