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**Universal Now Offering FAA Certified Dispatcher Course  
*Intensive Six-Week Course Replaces Two Year Traditional College Class***

**Houston** (Sept. 7, 2007) – Universal Weather and Aviation, Inc. recently received approval from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to become an aircraft dispatcher training course provider and is now offering the courses to the general public. The first public six-week course will begin Monday, Sept. 10, with the second class beginning Monday, Nov. 5.

“Our dispatcher course is a comprehensive training program that broadens business aviation professionals’ aviation knowledge, and improves their ability to effectively operate their companies’ flight departments,” said Mark Christensen, Universal® Sr. Workforce Development Specialist, and course instructor. “We teach the critical skills aircraft dispatchers need, such as flight planning, passenger requirements and regulations.”

Some of the other key skills taught in Universal’s dispatcher course include:

- Reading weather reports and forecasts;
- Reading and using en-route charts;
- Computing fuel requirements and load capabilities;
- Extracting performance data;
- Calculating and reading flight plans;
- Understanding flight operations;
- Knowledge of centralized air traffic flow;
- Responding to aircraft emergencies

Christensen spent the better part of two years developing the course’s curriculum and working with the FAA throughout the agency’s six-month review process.

“Very few companies in this industry are authorized to provide this course, which usually takes two years to complete in a traditional college classroom,” said Christensen. “Our intensive course consists of 38 training modules and 225 hours of instruction over six weeks.”

To become an approved facilitator of the course, Universal® first had to conduct a pilot course, in which all students had to pass the FAA’s rigorous written exam, followed by an oral practical exam administered by an FAA examiner. In addition, an 80 percent pass rate on the first oral practical exam was required in order for Universal® to receive certification.

“The written exam is comprised of 80 questions selected from a question bank of 1,500, which must be completed in three hours,” said Christensen. “A grade of 70 is passing – our students averaged almost 90.”

More information on the course can be found at Universal's Exhibit #7666 at the National Business Aviation Association's 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Convention (NBAA2007), held in Atlanta, Sept. 25-27, or by calling Mark Christensen at 713-947-5688.

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*At Universal Weather and Aviation, Inc., our goal is to become a vital extension of our clients' flight operations teams. Universal<sup>®</sup> offers a wide range of services designed to provide business aviation operators seamless service from start to finish. Universal's wide range of services includes flight planning, weather briefings, online tools, the UVair<sup>®</sup> Fueling Card and the UVglobal Network<sup>®</sup>, UVdatalink<sup>®</sup> air-to-ground communication, and more. Universal has been facilitating successful trips for business aviation operators since 1959.*

*To learn more about Universal Weather and Aviation, Inc., e-mail [sales@universalweather.com](mailto:sales@universalweather.com), or call (800) 231-5600 ext. 3300 (N. America Toll-Free) or (713) 944-1622 ext. 3300 (Worldwide).*

*Universal: Success from the word **GO**.*