AVIATION PROGRAM OF UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY UPGRADES TO NEW DIAMOND DA40 FLEET

News / Maintenance / Trainings

Where once two aircraft types were used for VFR and IFR training, the new DA40 XLT's will fulfill both roles in one modern aircraft. UVU Aviation has been using DA40 aircraft with the Lycoming Power Plant for the past twelve years. Alan Dennis, UVU Aviation's Chief Flight Instructor, explains, "When the DA20 C1 fleet needed replacing, the DA40 XLT was the obvious choice. Having a single aircraft type for each VFR and IFR training will make it easier for our maintenance department to control fleet availability. It also curbs the learning curve when our students progress from private pilot to instrument training."

"We are happy to support the growth of the UVU Aviation program" said Scott McFadzean, CEO of Diamond Aircraft Industries Inc, "the new DA40 XLT's with the four seat configuration allows UVU's students to sit in the backseat and observe their peers, helping to decrease overall training time."

© 2015-2026 50SKYSHADES.COM — Reproduction, copying, or redistribution for commercial purposes is prohibited.

Dan Sutliff, the UVU Faculty Lead for Flight Training, agrees. “Operating all four-place aircraft allows for student observers to go along on almost any flight, giving them the opportunity to learn by watching another student and instructor, without any pressure on them to perform.”

“Thanks to their excellent manufacturing, the planes are expected to be able to last for a long time despite their frequent use,” Alan Dennis says, “The DA40 is the true workhorse of our fleet. With the Lycoming engine, it has proven to be a rugged and reliable training aircraft.”

John James, Chief of Maintenance, explains why these aircraft are so significant. “Diamond is extremely proud of the fleet of aircraft created for UVU, as the painting of the 9 aircraft is the first for the DA40s in North America. We have started something new. I have received many compliments on our fleet from many individuals in our program and outside of it as well. Our fleet with the new paint scheme and logos looks great from the air and ground.”

The collaboration of Diamond and Utah Valley University will change the future of the UVU Aviation program.

In operation since 1988, the Utah Valley University School of Aviation Sciences has trained and educated thousands of FAA certified pilots and aviation industry professionals. As our safety record and graduate job placement rate (over 92%) attest, uncompromising safety and top-notch quality are the themes of our flight training and academic curriculum. The flexibility granted through our online and on-campus course delivery options makes UVU an ideal choice for anyone with an interest in aeronautical careers. UVU has a longstanding relationship with Diamond Aircraft (since 1996) and with the utmost confidence continues this partnership into the future.

Photo Credit: UVU Aviation

© 2015-2026 50SKYSHADES.COM — Reproduction, copying, or redistribution for commercial purposes is prohibited.

ARTICLE LINK:
https://to.50skyshades.com/news/maintenance-trainings/aviation-program-of-utah-valley-university-upgrades-to-new-diamond-da40-fleet

© 2015-2026 50SKYSHADES.COM — Reproduction, copying, or redistribution for commercial purposes is prohibited.