

ICAO Language Proficiency Requirements

**Mr. Ulf Grinsvall
Emirates Aviation College
Head of ATM Training Department /
ATC Chief Instructor
Dubai
United Arab Emirates**

Presentation Content

- **OUR EXPERIENCE**
- **BACKGROUND**
- **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ATCO TEST**
- **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PILOT TEST**
- **TEST DELIVERY – ATCO**
- **TEST RESULTS – ATCO**
- **TEST DELIVERY PILOTS**
- **CONCLUSION - FUTURE**

Our Experience



- Development and implementation of Aviation English Language Proficiency Assessments for Air Traffic Controllers in the United Arab Emirates since 2004.
- Delivery of Aviation English Language Proficiency Assessments for Air Traffic Controllers from UAE since 2005.
- Delivery of Aviation English Language Courses.
- Implementation of Aviation English Language Proficiency Assessments for Pilots in the UAE, year 2007.

Background

- ICAO Aviation Language Requirements for MAR 2008.
- Emirates Aviation College (EAC).
- Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) designed RELTA (RMIT English Language Testing for Aviation)
- First step “tailor made” RELTA for UAE requirements.
- Operational requirements for Emirates pilots resulted in implementation of a second test type, developed by Jeppesen.

Implementation of ATCO Test

- EAC – RMIT – General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA). Developed / Evaluated RELTA year 2004.
- RELTA approved by the GCAA year 2005 and implemented in the Civil Aviation Regulations (CAR).
- Examiners and Test Raters – Trained and Accredited by RMIT.
- Determination of “ICAO Expert Level 6” evaluated by a “non language expert” implemented in Civil Aviation Regulations (CAR).
- “ICAO Expert Level 6” Assessor,
 - Endorsement by GCAA to ATC Examiner Rating.

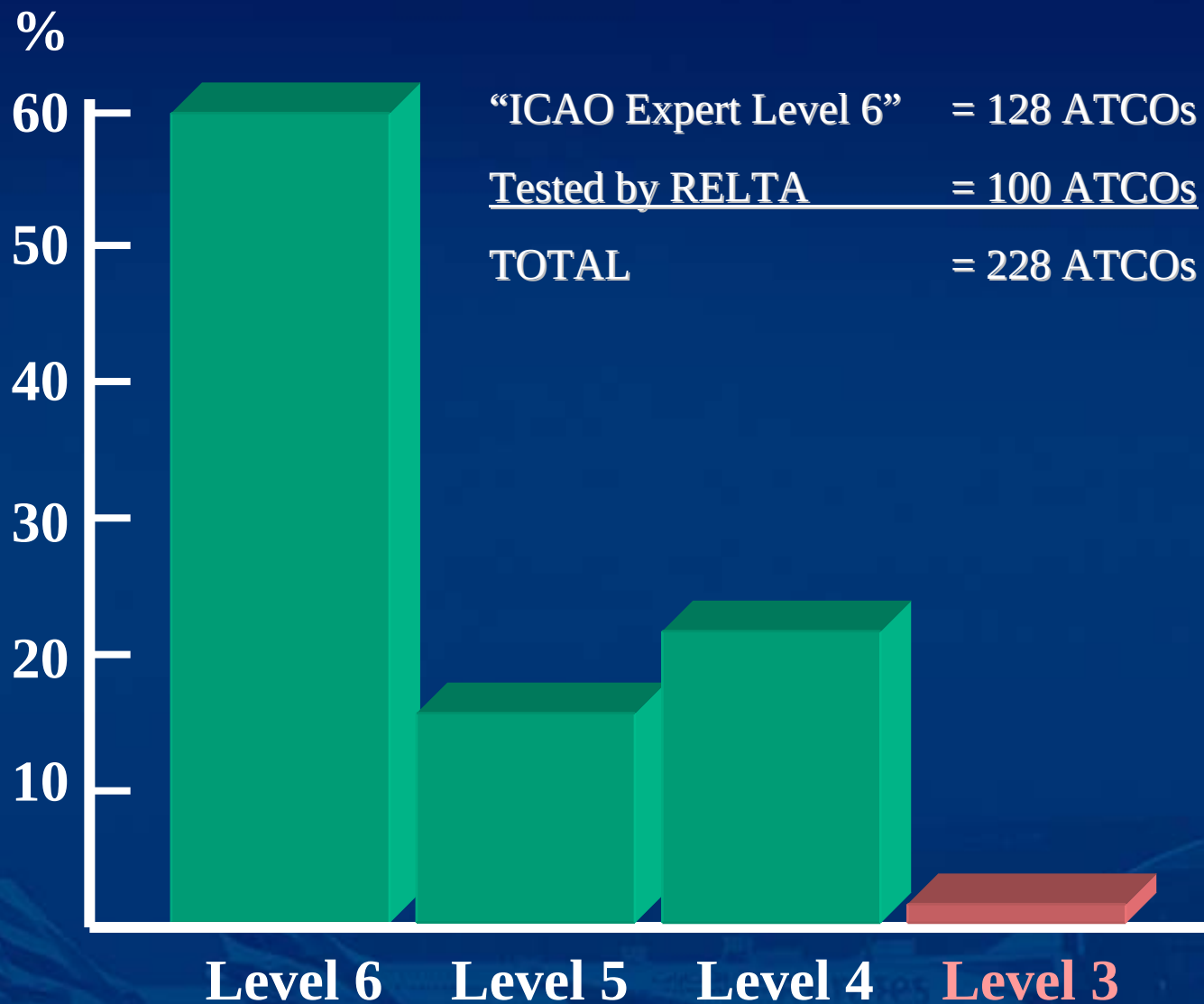
Implementation of Pilot Test

- EAC – Jeppesen – General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA)
- Implementation of Jeppesen Pilot test approved by the General Civil Aviation Authority - GCAA.
- Procedures for AEN Language Assessment for Pilots included in UAE Civil Aviation Regulations (CAR).
- Determination of “ICAO Expert Level 6” evaluated by “non language expert” not approved by GCAA for the Pilot Test.

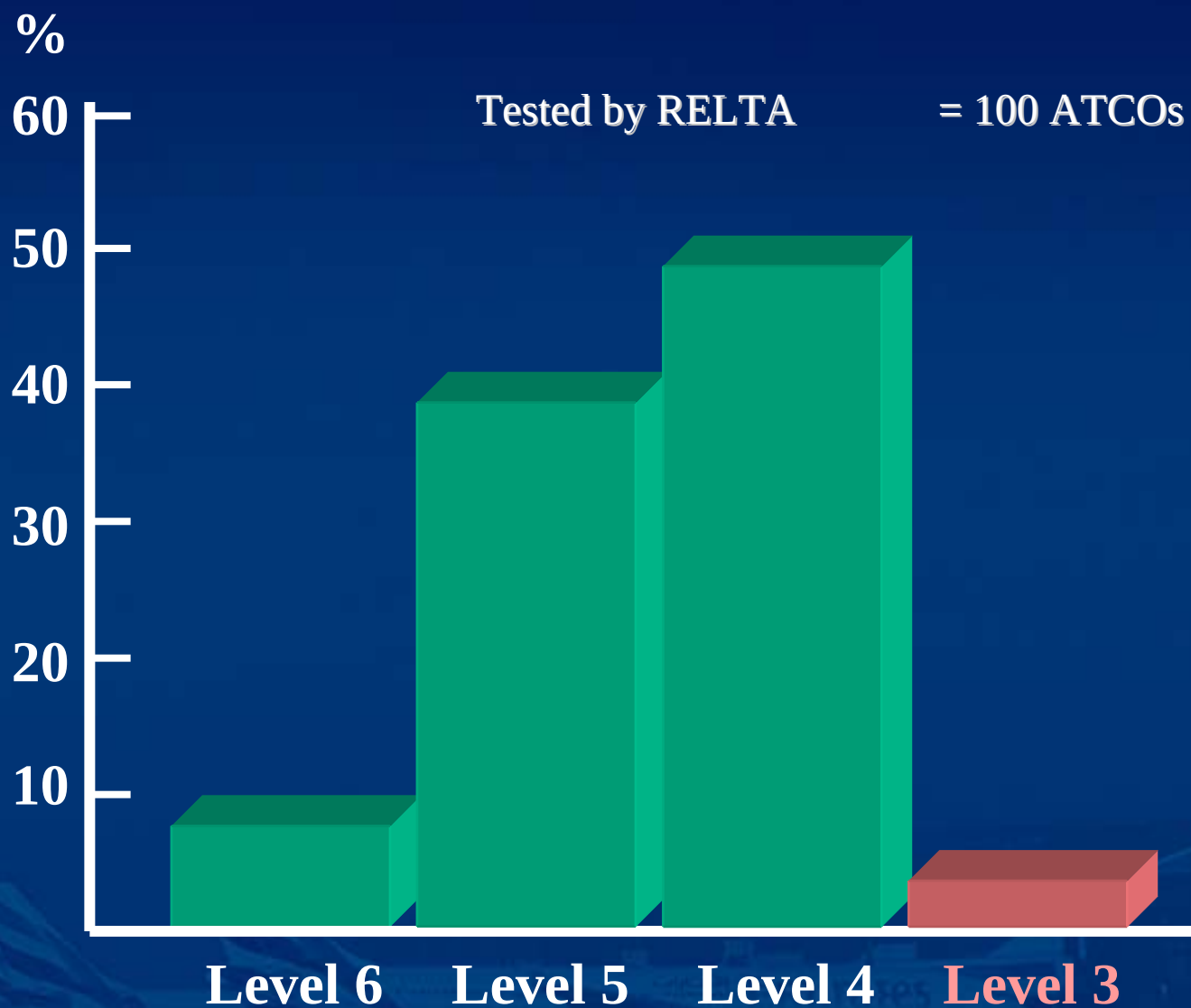
Test Delivery - ATCO

- All 228 UAE ATCOs have been tested (2005-2007).
- 55 % tested by the procedure “ICAO Expert Level 6”.
- 45 % tested by RELTA.
- 2 % afforded ICAO Level 3 – thus failed.
- Failed candidates undertook AEN Training – Retested earliest 90 days after first test.
- All new ATCOs recruits are being tested.
- UAE CAR requires, Ab Initio ATCOs to be tested prior to OJT commencement.

Test Results – UAE ATCOs



RELTA Results – UAE ATCOs



Test Delivery - Pilot



- 1940 pilots from Emirates will start testing 6 MAY 2007.
- Estimated completion in OCT 2007 (21 weeks)
- All new pilot recruits will be tested during recruitment process.
- EK cadet pilots will be tested after the initial part of the flight training.
- Big number of tests for other airlines to be started in JUN 2007 at EAC as well on client's site.



Future

- Many states have not yet started testing pilots or ATCOs = Peak period from now until MAR 2008.
- Number of pilots versus ATCO is considerably higher.
- Demand of AEN training courses for candidates achieving ICAO Level 3 or below.
- Recurrence tests every 3 and 5 year respectively. For UAE ATCOs (Level 4 and 5) does not appear challenging.
- Obviously higher demand for states with majority of ICAO Level 4 candidates.



Advantages / Implications

- Huge business potential for test centres and developers.
- What kind of test do the clients want ?
 - Highly sophisticated test with all “bells and whistles?”
 - A simple, cheap and quick test, just to satisfy the state authority?
- Existing language tests- Difference in design and philosophy.
- Challenge for the respective state authority to approve the test. Complying with ICAO International Standards and Recommendations?

Thank You



A white handwritten signature on a dark blue background. The signature is stylized, starting with a large 'U' and 'G' followed by a horizontal line and a final flourish.

Ulf Grinsvall
Emirates Aviation College

