

## ADACEL CUSTOMER TESTIMONIAL



# Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University



**“Adacel’s MaxSim has propelled ERAU to the forefront of air traffic control, airspace and airfield training as well as research and development.”** – Keith Parkman, Associate Professor and Program Coordinator for Air Traffic Management ERAU Product Group

### SOLUTION SUMMARY

#### Customer

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU)

#### Industry

Education

#### The Challenge

Create a cost-effective air traffic training system that will effectively train future air traffic controllers and more than adequately prepare them as replacements for a shrinking air traffic controller workforce. Additionally, develop an airfield and air traffic research system for graduate student studies.

#### The Solution

The MaxSim was installed, the system includes a high fidelity 180-degree, 4-channel system with ground control and voice recognition.

#### About ERAU

ERAU was founded on December 17, 1925, by barnstormer John Paul Riddle and entrepreneur T. Higbee Embry, exactly 22 years after the Wright brothers' historic flight. Embry Riddle is an independent, non-sectarian, not-for-profit university, serving culturally diverse students who are seeking careers in aviation, aerospace, engineering and related fields. Embry-Riddle has residential campuses in Daytona Beach, Florida and Prescott, Arizona, as well as an Extended Campus dedicated to providing educational opportunities to working adults worldwide via e-learning capabilities.

With an increase in student enrollment in the air traffic control training program, ERAU needed to implement a simulation system that would stimulate the minds of the students and expand their horizons in the simulation arena. Prior to Adacel, ERAU did not have a tower system, their existing radar simulator was a Wesson TRACON ProSystem; Adacel has since acquired Wesson. ERAU needed to provide their students with state-of-the-art industry standard simulation and training to prepare them as replacements for a shrinking air traffic controller (ATC) workforce.

#### The Challenge

ERAU supports over 300 air traffic control students a year and the institutional use of the MaxSim includes more than 50-100 drills a day.

ERAU needed a solution that met their specific training needs, one that would provide their students with the most realistic and comprehensive air traffic control training.



Additionally, the solution needed to be cost-effective and scalable and enable the smooth transition from student to air traffic controller. In this demanding, high growth environment, ERAU needed a product that was fast, accurate and efficient. To meet these challenges, Adacel suggested the scalable MaxSim solution to meet ERAU's growing needs. It is robust enough to handle the diverse number of applications/scenarios and effective enough to provide the ATC student with the most accurate and true-to-life simulation available.

"Adacel is a developer that stood the test of time and could offer ERAU the level of service and support that we need," said Keith Parkman, Associate Professor & Program Manager for ERAU's Air Traffic Management faculty. "We are entering a period of expansion fuelled by the rapid need to replace a shrinking ATC workforce and we needed a cost-effective, proven product that would further enhance our innovative aviation education program." Adacel's MaxSim was able to satisfy ERAU's requirements and was more than able to provide the level of service and support that ERAU needed.

### **Unparalleled Capabilities**

Taking advantage of MaxSim's ability to bring leading edge capabilities to the simulation user, the 4 channel 180-degree MaxSim Tower system boasts unmatched visuals, accurate environmental sights and sounds and Adacel's award winning voice recognition. The MaxSim enables the students to perform self-paced learning and permits the university to reduce operational costs by decreasing the need for pseudo pilots and/or instructors.

### **Benefits**

The main benefit of ERAU's MaxSim implementation is that it has enabled the air traffic control students to experience real-world ATC scenarios in a safe and controlled environment. Parkman also reports that the Adacel MaxSim has helped ERAU to minimize operational costs and maximize student learning. "In all, we have considerably increased student throughput, allowing us to ensure that we are better preparing the air traffic controllers of the future, giving ERAU another advantage in our industry."

### **A Solution for the Future**

Moving forward, Parkman plans to use the MaxSim in a research and development capacity, allowing graduate students to investigate and solve FAA and industry problems, as well as, perform airport and airfield planning, flight and operations simulation and disaster recovery flows. "With the MaxSim, I am confident that we have the perfect ATC training solution that will take us forward and keep pace with our growth. As the Air Traffic Management program continues to evolve, we will be able to further improve both radar and tower air traffic controller training, increase student throughput and ensure that we continue to make an effective and efficiently impact on aviation education and aviation control in general," concludes Parkman.

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