

Pan Am jobs set to take off in Orlando

□ The flight academy agreed to hire 22 employees by the end of 2000 at its pilot training center.

By Jack Snyder

OF THE SENTINEL STAFF

Pan Am International Flight Academy plans to start construction within weeks on a training center near Orlando International Airport that will bring more than 40 high-paying jobs to the area.

Hiring is expected to begin by the end of the year, spokeswoman Judi Blas said. In its application last year for more than \$200,000 in city of Orlando and state incentive money, the company said the jobs would average more than \$45,000 in annual pay.

Blas said most of the jobs would pay around the average. "The industry pay scales are very tight," she said. "They aren't much below or above that average."

To earn the incentives, the company is required to hire 22 employees by the end of this year and to fill all 43 positions by

the end of 2001, said Sherry Gutch, Orlando's economic development planner.

The training academy was once part of Pan American World Airways but was sold to private investors in 1992 after the airline filed for bankruptcy. The airline came back — as Pan American Airways Corp. and under different owners. It has flights out of Sanford Orlando Airport. The two companies, however, are not affiliated.

The flight-training academy, based in Miami, has about 300 employees, with op-

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Center to have flight simulators, classrooms

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erations in Vero Beach; Dulles, Va.; Phoenix and Scottsdale, Ariz.; Cincinnati; St. Louis; Indianapolis; Memphis; and Minneapolis.

Pan Am trains pilots, flight engineers, flight attendants, air-

traffic controllers and maintenance personnel, Blas said. Pan Am works with more than 200 airlines, including such giants at United, Delta and Continental.

The company has a 150,000-square-foot training center at Miami International Airport that includes full-flight simulators and

classrooms.

The Orlando center will be similar, including simulators, but on a smaller scale, Blas said.

Liberty Property Trust will build and lease the center to Pan Am. The real estate investment trust bought 12 acres at Orlando Corporate Center off State Road

436 north of the airport for the project. The land sold for \$1.77 million. The seller was Carter-

OCC Land Trust Inc. Daryl M. Carter and Jeffrey R. Douglas of Maury Carter & Associates and Craig Duke of Duke Properties were the brokers in the land transaction.