



# MEDIA ADVISORY

## United States Air Force

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO, Texas** – Air Education and Training Command will hold a Pilot Training Next (PTN) media day at the Armed Forces Reserve Center, Austin, Texas, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on April 26, 2018.

During the event, media will have the opportunity to conduct interviews with instructors, students and leadership from Detachment 21. Prior to the event, media will receive b-roll and stock photos for discretionary use in publications.

AETC stood up the detachment in February 2018 to test the viability of using existing and emerging technologies to revolutionize training in the Air Force – beginning with pilot training. PTN is the first iteration of this research project.

The pilot training next team is partnered with researchers, industry and academia to build a training environment that integrates technologies such as virtual reality, artificial intelligence, and biometrics to shorten and improve pilot training. Long-term, PTN will look at a technology-enabled solution that would completely change how AETC approaches pilot training--something not geared toward a specific airframe, but rather training that forms a pattern of thinking, instills Airmanship, sharpens decision making, and gives students an understanding of the operating environment.

“This is student-centric learning,” said Lt. Col. Robert Vicars, PTN initiative director. “We are going to use immersive technology to see how we can help people learn more effectively. This is an initiative to explore whether or not these technologies can help us learn deeper and faster.”

Media interested in attending should email AETC/PA at [aetc.pao@us.af.mil](mailto:aetc.pao@us.af.mil) or call 210-652-4400 by noon on April 23.

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