

Aloft 5 - What's New?



New look

Aloft 5 has a whole new look. There is a new grid for the flight listing and new icons. The program can also be themed with several Microsoft Office type themes. The default theme is Office 2007 Blue. To change the theme, select **Preferences** from the Edit menu, then click the Appearance tab.

Appearance Settings

The appearance of the program can be customized. The fonts and colors can be set for the flight listing grid and the report views.

How to use: Select **Preferences** from the Edit menu, then click the **Appearance** tab.

Flight Grouping

The flight listing view can group similar flights. Flights can be grouped and sorted by multiple fields.

File attachments

Flights can now have file attachments. Attach any related files, such as images, videos or documents. Attachments are backed-up with the logbook,

How to use: Click the **Attachments** button on the Flight Details dialog

Confirm/Blocked flight editing

For added data protection, editing of existing flights can be blocked, or require confirmation before saving changes.

How to use: Select **Preferences** from the Edit menu, then click the Options tab. Select the setting under Editing of Existing flights.

Enhanced backup

Logbook backups have been enhanced. In addition to the logbook data file, backups now contain all attachment files and view options settings. The backup files are compressed to save space. The backup file can also automatically contain the date.

There are also new options where to save the backup file. The file can be saved via FTP to an online server, or sent via email.

How to use: Select Backup logbook from the File menu

Logbook saved under in Documents folder

The logbook and other related data files are now stored the Windows Documents folder (My Documents on Windows XP). This offers easier backing of the files as your logbook is saved with all your other documents.

Query on text fields and Yes/No fields

Queries can now be done on the Remarks, Route and Crew text fields as well as any custom Yes/No fields.

Compare value in Queries

A Query can now have a compare value. This can be used when you are calculating the remaining hours, or flights needed to reach a goal.

Query title

Queries can have a custom title in place of the default title.

Aloft 5 – What's New

Expanded filters for Flight Currency

Flight currencies can now be filtered by aircraft class, aircraft characteristics or multiple aircraft types.

Exporting to Excel

The logbook can be directly exported directly to Excel.

How to use: Select **Export to Excel** from the File menu

Expanded filters

Filters have been expanded. Filters can have multiple conditions, such as PIC Day flights over 3 hours on a specific aircraft type. Filters can be saved for future use.

How to use: While viewing the Summary, or Calendar, select **Filters** from the View menu

USB Install

Aloft can be installed on a USB memory stick to take the program with you. This allows the program to be used on any system by simply connecting the memory stick. All files including your logbook are automatically copied to the memory stick. When back home, the logbook on the memory stick can be synchronized with your main logbook.

How to use: Select **Install on USB** from the File menu

PDF file creation

Aloft can now directly create a .pdf file of all views.

How to use: Select **Create PDF** from the File menu

Inactive aircraft

Aircraft can be marked as “inactive”. Inactive aircraft are not listed with entering flights. This reduces the number of aircraft to select from.

How to use: While editing an aircraft, select the **Inactive** option.

Google Earth

Flights can be viewed in Google Earth. Google Earth is a free world mapping application from Google. It is available from earth.google.com

How to use: Select the flights to view and select **In Google Earth** from the View menu

Export Currencies to Outlook® or other Calendars

Pilot and Flight currencies can be exported to Microsoft® Outlook®. For Pilot Currencies, select the currency from the Pilot Currency dialog and click the **Export** button. For Flight Currencies, right click on the view and select **Export to Outlook**. Exporting has two options, **Export to Outlook** and **Export to iCalendar file**.

Export to Outlook will export the currency directly to Outlook (Outlook must already be installed on your system). **Export to iCalendar file** will create an iCalendar file, which can be imported into most calendar or scheduling programs.

Currencies on Calendar

Currency due notices are now displayed on the Calendar to show upcoming items.

Flight highlighting

Flights on the flight listing view can be color highlighted based on various fields.

How to use: Select **Flight Highlighting** on the View menu.

Desktop sync

Desktop logbooks can now be synchronized.

How to use: Select **Synchronize** from the File menu.

Aloft 5 – What's New

Editable Airport database

The Airport database is now editable. Add, or edit airports as you need. Airports also now have a time zone setting for calculating and converting times at the airport.

Time Zone Conversion

There is a new time zone converter to convert the time in two locations.

How to use: Select **Time Zones** from the Tools menu.

New logbook layout options

Several new options have been added to the logbook formatting.

Airport name and distance fields

Two new fields are available for the logbook layout, full airport name and flight distance.

Multi-line remarks

The Remarks field will now wrap long text and print multi-lines on the logbook printout.

New "Position" field

There is a new Position field for the logbook layout. This field will show the position recorded for the flight, such as "PIC", "Dual" or "SIC".

New "Rotary", "Fixed wing" and "Float" fields

There are new fields related to the new aircraft settings for rotary, and float. These fields can be used in queries to get PID, Dual, SIC or other total times on aircraft types.

Filter

A filter can be added to the layout so only certain flights will be included.

Logo

A logo can be added to the layout.

Settings in config file

Most settings are now stored in a config file instead of the Windows registry. The config file is saved in the same folder as the logbook file. This file is backed up along with the logbook so the settings are retained when you do a restore. The config file is also copied to the USB device when you do a USB install so you take your settings with you.

PIC name option for flight listings

There is a new option to display either your name, or a custom name, such as "Self" in the flight listings and logbook printouts.

Sortable Pilot Currencies and Ratings

The Pilot Currencies and Ratings & Certificates listing are now sortable on any field. Click the column header to sort by the column.

Expanded Aircraft listing

The aircraft dialog has been expanded to show more information about the aircraft. The list is also sortable by clicking on a column header.

Simulator time included in flight time

There is now an option, under Aircraft type setting, to specify if time in a simulator should be counted in the total time calculations.

Aloft 5 – What's New

Increased Pocket Aloft synchronization

Pocket Aloft synchronization has been expanded to include custom fields,

Pocket Aloft

History balance

When synchronizing from the desktop and only copying part of the logbook, a summary of previous hours can be added to the pocket logbook. With this history entry the Pocket can report total times without the need for all the flights to be on the pocket.

File backup to storage card

The logbook can be automatically backed up to a storage card.

Signature entry

A signature can be added to a flight entry. Signatures can be printed from the desktop in the logbook printout.

Commercial Edition

New features in the commercial edition.

New Duty Time View

There is a new Duty Time view to display an hourly duty time-line. Both duty times and flight times can be displayed on this view to see the time relation.

How to use: Select **Duty Times** from the View menu.

Takeoff and Landing times

Two new time fields have been added, Takeoff and Landing. These are in addition to Startup and Shutdown fields from Aloft 4. The Takeoff and Landing times can be used to calculate the flight airtime (there is a new air time field in logbook layout field list).

Takeoff count

Takeoffs can be counted in addition to landings for each flight. This feature is optional. To enable, or disable the takeoff count field, select Preferences from the Edit menu and select the Options tab.

Total time with 50% SIC field

A new field has been added for reports, **Total (50% SIC)** which calculates total time with 50% of SIC time.

Multi flight entry

Multiple flights for the same day can be entered at once with the multi flight entry dialog.

How to use: Select **Add multi flights** from the Edit menu.

Create Student logbook

An instructor can create a logbook file for a student. All flights the instructor had with the student will be copied to the student logbook with the flights entered as "Dual" flights.

Routes

Predefined routes can be saved for easier flight entry. A Route defines the startup and shutdown times, the departure and arrival airports, the aircraft type and flight routing.

How to use: Select **Routes** from the Tools menu to define the routes, then enter the flight number when adding a flight to use the route information.

Aloft 5 – What's New

Flight Time Zones

Flights can be entered in Zulu, local or domicile (home) times. Flight times are calculated based on the related time zone.

Automatic day/night flight time calculation

Aloft will automatically calculate the day and night time for the flight based on the startup, shutdown time and related airport time zone.