

Boeing to Open Pilot Training Center in Skolkovo

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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American aircraft maker Boeing signed a raft of deals on Wednesday to create a pilot training center at Moscow's state-run Skolkovo technology park.

Russia needs about 1,200 more pilots to meet commercial flight demands, the Transportation Ministry has said.

Under Wednesday's deals, the Skolkovo Foundation and Boeing will provide intellectual property and training know-how, Russia's Industrial Investors Group will render the bulk of financing, and the Tranzas holding will provide flight simulators.

Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev, who has made technological innovation a hallmark of his tenure, observed the signing.

The government is also preparing legislation to allow domestic airlines to hire foreign pilots

and the Transportation Ministry has proposed a program to hire some 200 foreign pilots annually over five years.

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