

Pilot International Fact Sheet

“Protecting Your Brain for Life”™

**Pilot
International:
Fact Sheet**

History of Service

Founded in 1921 in Macon, Georgia, Pilot International is a volunteer organization of executive, business and professional leaders working together to improve the quality of life in communities throughout the world by serving those with brain-related disorders and disabilities.

The name “Pilot”, chosen for its meaning, “leader and guide,” is symbolized by the riverboat wheel emblem, which represents a steady course. Pilot International’s motto is “True Course Ever.”

Pilot International emphasizes a diversified international membership, with some 22,000 adult and Anchor members worldwide. Members can be found internationally in countries including the Argentina, Bahamas, Canada, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Ukraine and the United States.

Service with a Purpose

Pilot’s service focus involves promoting awareness of brain-related disorders, and helping those affected through volunteer activities, education, and financial support.

Pilot works closely with national and international organizations that support this focus, including the National Organization on Disability, American Heart Association, Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives, Alzheimer’s Association, Project Lifesaver and The Brain Injury Association.

Pilot members participate in fundraising projects such as Pilot Walks to support programs in the field of brain-related disorders and disabilities.

Pilot Clubs participate in Brain Awareness Week, an annual event sponsored by the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives, to increase awareness of advances in brain research and their importance to society.

In 2001, Pilot International launched its signature project, *BrainMinders™*. Funded by a gift to Pilot International Foundation from the estate of Callye Neese, *BrainMinders™* is Pilot’s public service campaign signature project aimed at increasing awareness of brain injuries and ways to prevent them. Public Service Announcements (PSAs) have been distributed to radio stations across North America. The first BrainMinder Buddies™ program is designed to teach children ages four to six years old the importance of safety; a safety program for seven- through nine-year-olds was introduced in 2003. Pilot volunteers present the programs in schools and day care centers and other venues, and have reached an estimated 500,000 children around the world. An educational program about the teen-age brain was introduced in 2006 for Anchor members to present to pre-teens and younger teens.

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Commitment to Anchor

Pilot's commitment to young people began in 1952 with the establishment of Anchor Club, a volunteer service organization for high school students. Today there are approximately **10,000** members worldwide, including elementary, middle school, high school, and college students.

Pilot sponsors Anchor Clubs in schools and as independent organizations. Members volunteer many hours to projects that improve their schools and communities by helping people in need.

Anchor Club members receive leadership training through their service activities and through participation in district and international conventions. Members are encouraged to enter Pilot-sponsored awards programs, such as "Outstanding Anchor Club of the Year." District winners attend Pilot's annual meeting and convention. Members may also nominate their advisors for "Anchor Advisor of the Year."

Pilot International Foundation

The Foundation was established in 1975 to support Pilot's humanitarian efforts through charitable, educational, and scientific research programs. Its purpose is to improve the lives of people affected by brain-related disorders through grants and scholarships.

Pilot Clubs may sponsor eligible students for one of the Foundation's four scholarship programs.

Matching grants are disbursed to Pilot Clubs to further programs that benefit those affected by brain-related disorders.

The Foundation Donor Recognition Program provides public recognition to benefactors for their contributions. All donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible.

As a partner, the National Organization on Disability periodically offers awards through Pilot International Foundation to Pilot clubs for outstanding projects that promote societal participation and acceptance of those with disabilities.

In 2001 the Pilot International Foundation Board of Trustees began raising funds for a Pilot International Foundation Endowment. The purpose of the Endowment will be to provide funds for grants, scholarships, and other programs of the Foundation.

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EEOC/Affirmative Action Statement

Pilot International and the Foundation affirm the policy of participation in all programs and employment without regard to race, religion, creed, color, gender, age, national or ethnic origin, or disability. The Boards of Directors and Trustees are committed to this policy of nondiscrimination, and urge each Pilot Club to uphold the code of ethics, purpose, and mission of Pilot International by reflecting the common cause of friendship and service in all activities—in a nondiscriminatory manner.

