



**AIR TRANSPORT**  
**DISTRICT LODGE 142**



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## **IAM/COMAIR AIRLINES MARCH NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE**

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Negotiations resumed this week in CVG with meetings occurring on March 22 and 23. While originally scheduled to meet for three days this session, the Company had to cancel the meeting for today due to scheduling difficulties with their corporate counsel. The full Union negotiating committee was in attendance and the Company committee was minus an HR presence.

Most of this session's available time was spent on dialogue and language drafting for an updated Article 17 which covers the Grievance and System Board area of the Agreement. A number of proposals were generated by the membership for this Article and much progress was made in the drafting of new language. The Article may be completed and tentatively agreed upon at the next session.

Also occurring this week on Thursday was another presentation concerning the state of Comair's health care costs as they relate to the IAM Mechanic and Related bargaining unit. To give you a refresher on the history of our current Agreement health care provisions related to cost, we were able to lock in a cap on the increase to our healthcare while in bankruptcy which last was increased in 2007 for the 2008 plan year. If you take the costs for plans/coverages that a majority of our members have (i.e. medical-family, dental, EE sup, vol. spouse and vol. child), our members have realized about a 1.4% increase in total premium costs from 2008 to 2011. The Company has incurred roughly a 56% increase (assuming a 15% year over plan year increase) in their overall cost. This type of increase to the Company's cost coupled with losing a large employee group in CVG (REHS) last year will give you an idea of why this will become a frequent topic of negotiations.

The next dates for meetings to occur are April 12, 13, and 14 and will take place again in CVG. Details of all meetings and activities will be communicated via bulletin once completed. Everyone should remain engaged with your Stewards and Committeemen about negotiations and please feel free to call me with any questions you may have. I can also easily be reached via e-mail at [jsamuel@iamdl142.org](mailto:jsamuel@iamdl142.org).

Sincerely and fraternally,

James M. Samuel  
**GENERAL CHAIRPERSON**

Duncan Sprague      Kerry Stewart      Mike Stadnik  
**NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

JMS/slb

cc: R. Roach, Jr.  
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opeiu #320

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