



District 142

Continental • ExpressJet • Micronesia • Gulfstream • CommutAir

Weekly Update



The Update Message from the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers representing Flight Attendants in the 2339 Local Lodges

Friday, May 16, 2008

House Committee Weighs Airline Mergers – Transportation General Vice President Robert



Roach, Jr. urged lawmakers to weigh the effect of any airline merger on employees, passengers and communities.

Roach, Jr., blamed airline management for the industry's turmoil and urged lawmakers to take an active role in the industry's recovery. "Some airlines are constantly asking the government for relief, begging the courts to abrogate contracts and forcing the government to absorb its pension obligations," said Roach in testimony before a House Transportation Subcommittee this week "History has shown that poorly managed airlines cannot operate without government assistance." The hearing

was held by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's Subcommittee on Aviation to examine the

"Impact of Consolidation on the Aviation Industry, with a Focus on the Proposed Merger between Delta Air Lines and Northwest Airlines." It was the fourth hearing in less than three weeks to investigate the potential impact of airline mergers. "If airline executives spent as much time running their airline as they do looking for bailouts or mergers, this industry and our country's transportation system would be much better off," said Roach. **"A Delta-Northwest merger will eliminate jobs, reduce choices for passengers, further deteriorate customer service, trigger additional senseless mergers, make millionaires even richer, and most importantly, do nothing to address the problems of a failing industry."** As it has in previous hearings, the IAM urged Congress to take an active role in establishing an airline transportation summit so that labor, management and passengers can come together and discuss ways to improve the troubled industry. The IAM's complete testimony and other airline merger-related news is available at www.goiam.org/mergers.

ExpressJet – Since the revelation that ExpressJet has rejected an offer to be purchased by SkyWest, the Machinists Union has not received any further official information from the carrier. The IAM has fought to protect jobs by opposing any unnecessary merger and also by testifying before the U.S. Congress and Senate numerous times on the ills of these proposed mergers. We are committed to ensuring that no IAM member is adversely affected as a result of any merger or consolidation, even if it means that the merger ultimately fails.



The IAM and District Lodge 142 is pleased to announce the graduation of Continental Airlines Flight Attendant class, "08-05" and to welcome our newest members to our IAM family, **Congratulations!**

CommutAir Negotiations – Negotiations for the first CommutAir Flight Attendant contract commenced this week, with meetings on May 14th and 15th, 2008. An outline for discussions was agreed upon and numerous proposals were discussed. Additional meetings have been scheduled for July and August to continue negotiations.

Just Say No! To Airline Mergers – The Machinists Union strongly opposes mergers among the major airlines for the following reasons: airline hubs will be eliminated; service frequency will be reduced; competition will be diminished; jobs will be lost; customer service will deteriorate; and pension obligations will be jeopardized; and fuel prices will remain unaffected by a merger. The IAM is part of a coalition of consumer advocates, political leaders and passenger rights groups who oppose the mega-mergers, but we need your help. All IAM members are asked to contact their elected representatives and urge their opposition for airline mergers that will only benefit airline executives and bankers.

Link to contact representatives: <http://capwiz.com/iamaw/issues/alert/?alertid=11231996>

Crewmember Self-Defense Training – Following meetings between the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and the Machinists Union, The TSA and the Federal Air Marshal Service are now offering Crew Member Self-Defense Training (CMSDT) in the Houston, TX and Newark, NJ areas. The techniques presented in this course are easy to perform and effective when applied correctly – something that is critically important when you must respond quickly. **Regardless of your physical size or fitness level, anyone can learn and execute these defense techniques quickly, efficiently, and effectively.** Participation is voluntary, but your Union representatives encourage you to take advantage of this unique opportunity! We are pleased to advise you that the TSA has reported a marked increase in participation in the self defense training classes and therefore they have added additional training dates for May and June in the Houston area. Spread the word with your co-workers and challenge them in joining you to attend this training course. In the Newark area - Essex County College Police Academy 250 Grove Avenue Cedar Grove, NJ 07009, May 19, 28 Contact: Rocco L. Miscia (973) 877-4352 Email: miscia@essex.edu or Mary Beam (973) 877-4350 Email: beam@essex.edu and in the Houston area – Lone Star College - North Harris 10041 Regal Row, Suite 170 Houston, TX 77040, June 19, 20, July 15, 17 - Contact: Deb Pruitt (281)260-3598 Email: Debra.L.Pruitt@nhmccd.edu.

We would like to encourage all members to attend your Local Lodge business meeting. Each Local Lodge must have a quorum to conduct business. The following is a schedule for upcoming meetings:

Houston: Tuesday, May 20, 2008, 1:00 p.m. at 15710 JFK Blvd.

Guam: Wednesday, May 21, 2008, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room.

Newark: Tuesday, June 10, 2008, 3:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel (formerly Doubletree)

Cleveland: Thursday, June 12, 2008, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive.