



**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, June 13, 2008



**IAM / ExpressJet Airlines Update** – This week, IAM representatives as well as other labor union representatives attended a meeting with ExpressJet Airlines. A presentation was given by Mr. Jim Ream, President and CEO. Mr. Ream provided a history of developments dating from the fall of 2005 up to the recent announcement of the new Capacity Purchase Agreement (CPA). Some specifics of the CPA were provided: The new CPA is effective July 1, 2008 and is seven years in duration; the aircraft dedicated to the new agreement will be 190; the first year reduction in block hours will be 15% versus the previous year. In order to address the excessive staffing issue as a result of the reduced block hours

the Company will offer COLAs and an Early Out/Voluntary Separation plan. The details of both should be finalized shortly. Mr. Ream advised ExpressJet is evaluating both the branded and charter flying. No determination has been made regarding the future of these operations at this time. As a result of the new CPA it will be necessary to reduce the unit costs by 6%. To that end all management/non-management employees (not employees covered by a Union contract) will receive a 5% reduction in pay effective July 15, 2008. The Company has requested reductions from all labor groups as well. We believe it is our responsibility to meet with the Company regarding this situation. To properly address this matter we have engaged our in-house economist Peter Greenberg, to review all appropriate financials prior to and during discussions with the Company. While no date has been set we anticipate discussions will occur in the very near future. These are hard financial times for the airline industry and just as importantly for our Flight Attendants. You will be kept advised of all future developments. Fraternaly yours, Tom Higginbotham President-Directing General Chairperson

**IAM / Continental Airlines Update** – Continental has announced significant reductions in flying and staffing as the company addresses the effect of the continuing increase in cost of fuel and the related economic conditions. We are in discussions with the company to insure the impact to our Flight Attendants is minimized including steps to avoid furloughs and involuntary loss of work. We will update you as additional information and developments occur. Fraternaly yours, Tom Higginbotham, President-Directing General Chairperson



The IAM and District Lodge 142 is pleased to announce the graduation of Continental Airlines Flight Attendant class, "08-07" and to welcome our newest members to our IAM family, **Congratulations!**



**Take Action to End U.S. Passport Outsourcing** – In the latest outsourcing outrage, the federal government has authorized the outsourcing of United States passport book covers and the RFID electronic security chip to a company in Europe. Click [here](#) to send a message to your elected representative urging them to support HR 5752, legislation to require that the U.S. passport be completely manufactured in the U.S. The book cover and chip are to be produced in Europe and then shipped to Thailand to have the chip's antenna added before being shipped to the U.S. Making matters even worse, the company acknowledged last year that the Chinese government had stolen the patent for the chip.

Direct link to send a message to your elected representative:

<http://capwiz.com/iamaw/issues/alert/?alertid=11474426>

**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, **June 18, 26, July 1, 10, 17, 24, August 5, 12, 19, 27** - Contact: Rocco L. Miscia (973) 877-4352 Email: [miscia@essex.edu](mailto:miscia@essex.edu) or Mary Beam (973) 877-4350 Email: [beam@essex.edu](mailto: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](mailto: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, June 17, 2008, 1:00 p.m. at 15710 JFK Blvd.

**Guam:** Wednesday, June 18, 2008, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room.

**Newark:** Tuesday, July 8, 2008, 3:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel

**Cleveland:** Thursday, July 10, 2008, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive.