



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

## Saturday, October 24, 2009

**Contract 2010** – The Union served the company this month with Section 6 notice “in accordance with the Railway Labor Act” with our intent to amend the contract and commence negotiations. This notice means the parties will be sitting down in the next 60 days to exchange comprehensive proposals regarding the changes the Union intends to seek. By no means will the Union allow the process of contract negotiations to be rushed, just to get something done. After receiving tens of thousands of proposals via the web site and by mail, it is evident that our flight attendant members have expressed a great interest in this round of negotiations. Recently, District Lodge 142 launched the “**Contract 2010**” webpage, which will be your main source for information on negotiations. Local Lodge websites will have a direct link to the “**Contract 2010**” web page to ensure easy access for all members.

**Contract 2010 link:** <http://www.iamdl142.org/contract2010/>

**The IAM/ Continental Airlines web based negotiations survey** is now available. This will be the first of several surveys to assist the negotiations committee with refining the current trends and issues that arise during the negotiation process. Please encourage everyone that you fly with to take 5 minutes to fill out the survey and continue to be an intricate part of our negotiating process. After completing the survey please sign up for the "special bulletin" email list that will be used to update our group on negotiations issues, as well as inform each other of what to expect next. Let the company know that we are **STANDING TOGETHER for CONTRACT 2010**.

**Survey link:** <http://iamsurvey.iamaw.org/checkbox/Survey.aspx?s=d177f19eca1b4bf1b6fc9a28b3f20383>

### **ExpressJet Flight Attendants:**

- Vacation Bids are now open and will close October 21, 2009. Don't forget to place your bids before the closing date!
- *ExpressJet Annual Benefits Enrolment* opens November 2 and ends November 20, 2009. For more information refer to the company website and crew room notices.
- Reserve flight attendants continue to report problems with Scheduling and FIFO. Please note you must provide pairing information and any back up documentation to assist your Union representatives with conducting investigations. If you believe that a Scheduler has behaved in a non-professional manner you must supply us with date, time, and name of scheduler so that we can pull tapes to review the conversation.

**National Group Protection Insurance will continue to be offered** at the Houston and Newark bases in the Continental & ExpressJet crew rooms October 22-27 and November 4-7, 2009. Underwritten by American Bankers Life Assurance Company, you can elect to have accident; cancer; critical illness; or universal life insurance coverage for yourself and/or your family members. There will be representatives in the crew rooms to explain the coverage being offered for IAM members. Flight Attendants from all bases transiting through Houston during this time are welcome to enroll.

**President Obama Saturday declared the H1N1 flu a national emergency**, clearing the way for legal waivers to allow hospitals and doctors' offices to better handle a surge of new patients. Health experts expect the H1N1 to become much more wide spread in several areas of the United States. Fortunately, the seasonal flu has not been a factor to date and now is the time to take precautions to help prevent yourself and co-workers from becoming ill. Get your flu shots as soon as they become available. Wash your hands often, sneeze into your sleeve, remember to use gloves when picking up trash, use the sanitizer's that are provided for you and if you are sick, please stay home and don't pass it onto your co-workers. While H1N1 could mutate aggressively into a deadly pandemic killing millions, Dr. Margaret Chan of the World Health Organization, now admits that well into the flu season in the Northern Hemisphere that H1N1 has apparently not mutated. With that being said, if you suffer from a compromised immune system or have a chronic illness or are pregnant, you should take extra precautions and consult your doctor at the first sign of any flu like symptoms. If each of us does our part it will go a long way in slowing the spread of the flu and H1N1.

**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:

**Newark:** Tuesday, November 10, 2009, 3:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel

**Cleveland:** Thursday, November 12, 2009, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive

**Houston:** Tuesday, November 17, 1:00 p.m. at Houston Airport Marriott Hotel

**Guam:** Wednesday, November 18, 2009, 2009, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room