



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 8, 2009

IAM Call for Contract Proposals for Continental Airlines Flight Attendants is currently underway. The IAM/Continental Flight Attendant agreement becomes amendable on December 31, 2009. Accordingly, a call for proposed contract changes is now in order. Each proposed change should be submitted separately on a contract proposal form. Proposal forms can be obtained from the grievance committee, or submitted online via <http://www.iamdl142.org/proposals>. You must include the following information:

- Identify the section and paragraph to be amended
- Proposed contract language change or modification.
- Example of problem or reason for change.
- Your name, employee number, and Local Lodge.

All proposed changes must be submitted online or to your base grievance committee for screening and categorization no later than midnight CDT June 30, 2009. Now is the time to submit the changes you would like to see negotiated in your contract.

Continental Airlines Issues a Coffee Safety Update – Flight attendant reported incidents of coffee bursting out of the brew tray during the brew cycle has dropped significantly (64% since February). Continental formed a safety team comprising of members from Interiors, Engineering, Maintenance, Dining Services and Inflight. It should be noted that while flight attendants were interviewed regarding these incidents, no flight attendant or union representatives were invited to participate in the investigative process. An Inflight “Cabin Safety & Regulatory Compliance” Bulletin 09-79, dated May 7, 2009, summarizes the preliminary results of the investigation, indicating the possibility that CO2 trapped in the coffee may be released during the brew cycle. The company says they may have received a bad batch of coffee with high levels of CO2. Continental says there is a possibility that the excess CO2 may be escaping faster than it can vent through the brew pack and small vents on the brew drawer. Continental is replacing existing supplies of coffee with new coffee. Flight attendants will be able to identify the new coffee which will be packed in clear plastic bags (not the familiar foil packaging). If flight attendants encounter further problems with bursting coffee, **please contact your union representatives to make them aware of the incident.** Please follow the company’s instructions as outlined in Safety Bulletin 09-01, which is located behind the green safety tab of you Inflight Manual. Report all incidents of coffee bursting to your supervisor or you may call the Cabin Safety Department at 281-553-7306.

The Union and ExpressJet agreed to a new procedure for picking up advertised trips during our most recent Scheduling meeting. Effective immediately, flight attendants that would like to pick up an advertised trip must first try to pick up through the computer. If you are unable to pick-up the advertised trip via the computer system, please note the computer generated error code and then call Scheduling for assistance with picking up the trip. If the Scheduler asks that you try picking up the trip via the computer system, inform them of the error code you received from your prior attempt and the scheduler will assign the trip to your line, if the trip is still available. Flight attendants will no longer receive confirmation telephone calls from Scheduling regarding trips advertised. *If you advertise a trip, it will be given away unless you remove it from advertising.*

Continental Flight Attendants please be aware that for the past two months the FAA has been conducting random audits of your Inflight manuals. The FAA has advised Continental that an unacceptable number of flight attendant manuals are not in compliance. There is a possibility that audits may be escalated by the FAA over the next few months. Inflight implemented a mandatory manual blitz at all bases starting on April 27, 2009, to ensure that manuals are in compliance. Please refer to Inflight Bulletin 09-63, dated April 24, 2009 for specific details regarding the manual blitz.

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, May 12, 2009, 3:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel

Cleveland: Thursday, May 21, 2009, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive
The meeting date has been changed for May, due to a conflict with the Legislative Conference.

Houston: Tuesday, May 19, 2009, 1:00 p.m. at Houston Airport Marriott Hotel
May and June local lodge meetings will be held at the IAH Airport Marriott hotel. May's meeting will be held in the Amarillo Room and June's meeting in the Fort Worth room.

Guam: Wednesday, May 20, 2009, 2009, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room