



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

**Sunday, April 18, 2010**

**The recent eruption of Iceland's Eyjafjallajokull volcano** is spewing a cloud of volcanic ash that is spreading southward over Europe and eastward into Russia. Microscopic particles of extremely abrasive ash could cause aircraft engines to fail, prompting authorities to shut down air space over Britain, Ireland, France, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Belgium. This event is causing a disruption of air travel that hasn't been seen since September 11, 2001. With hundreds of flight cancellations and our IAM crewmembers stranded all over northern Europe, your Union representatives want to remind members that the company must follow Section 5., in your Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), when dealing with the loss of flight time.

*Cancellations and reassignments are covered under Section 5. K., **Loss of Flight Time** (pp. 5-58 thru 5-63).*

*Waiving of limitations is covered under Section 5. M., **Waiving of Limitations** (pp. 5-64 thru 5-65).*

Whenever you receive a directive from scheduling or Inflight management that changes your pairing, make sure that you document the scheduler's and/or supervisor's name, the date and time and any specific instructions you receive from the company.

**Know your rights and do not waive your legalities!** Waiving your legalities could cost you money and distress.

If you are asked by a scheduler or the company to do something that doesn't fall under the parameters of your contract, **ask them if they are giving you a direct order.**

Contact a union representative for further assistance if you have been affected by this volcanic event.

#### **ExpressJet Flight Attendants:**

**UAX - Base:** The company announced this week that UAL has agreed to waive the \$50 per person enrollment fee for United travel for 2010 and all ORD based flight attendants will be opted into the program. Also, this means that new personnel added to the ORD base will not have to wait for the next quarter to join the travel program, they will be immediately enrolled.

**Restoration of Days Off:** The company will restore as many days as possible during the remainder of April. Gary Cerrato's CCS message is as follows:

#### **Restoration of Days Off-4/16**

We are now accepting requests for the restoration of February lost days off during the remainder of April and the month of May. This process will continue for several months due to the limited amount of CDO's available each month. Please submit 2 requests for each day off lost in February, to be restored in April and/or May. The CDO's, if awarded to you, will be in no particular order but rather based on the availability on the days requested. This process will continue each month until all Feb CDO's are awarded.

Email your two choices for each lost day off, including the month requested in your email to: [Gary.Cerrato@ExpressJet.com](mailto:Gary.Cerrato@ExpressJet.com)

It is the union's belief that the company has already violated twice - once by not restoring days off in February and again by not restoring them in April, per the agreement. Your General Chairpersons have not withdrawn the "et al grievance" regarding this issue and we will keep you updated of our progress.

**Scheduling/Planning Issues:** The Union met this week with the company to address the multiple Scheduling violations we are experiencing, both in the UAX and COEX flying. We addressed a laundry list of items including "Positive Space Deadheading" on UAL, Scheduling not supplying locator numbers per the CBA, hotels not being booked at the time trips are assigned, wait times on Crew Scheduling telephones, flight attendant requests not being honored for vacation slides and Bid Period to Bid Period Line Adjustments, the list of flight attendants eligible to bid changing during SLIW, improper line awards, cross utilization of flight attendants between COEX and UAX flying and improper reassignment of line holders.

**The Union has been advised of the following:**

- Crew Scheduling will soon have a new telephone system which will better queue and track calls and that will visually advise Schedulers of wait times (via a large LED screen), and should significantly reduce hold times
- Locator numbers will be supplied per Section 3.P.1.a. of the CBA
- Hotels will be booked
- Crew Planning will adhere to Section 5.C.9 when preparing the list of f/as eligible to bid

All other complaints are being investigated by the Union and we will meet with the company again next week to try to reach a resolution.

Please review Section 5.M. and N. of the CBA - Reassignment, particularly 5.N.4.

*"Whenever a loss of flying occurs during trip operation, it will be the flight attendant's responsibility to contact the appropriate Crew Scheduler for potential reassignment."*

Don't rely on what your pilots tell you – Get the **FACTS** from your Union representatives!

**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, April 20, 2010, 1:00 p.m. at Houston Airport Marriott Hotel

**Guam:** Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room

**Newark:** Tuesday, May 11, 2010, 3:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel

**Cleveland:** Thursday, May 13, 2010, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive