

PCN Services – High Life *Newsletter, News, Events, Deaths, Illness Notices* and *PCN Calendar*

Large Web Community for World's Largest Airline

A merger on Aug 1, 2009 of RSP and Delta Retired Pilots Communication Network

High Life

For all Delta people who have truly touched the *High Life!*

Dear PCN,

Group Section.....

Mark's Remarks:

Now High Life's are [archived](#) at our website in Adobe Acrobat .pdf files.

News Section.....

Delta News (Recent stories of interest): [Yahoo](#), [AJC](#)

Delta Flight Simulator Technicians Reject Union Representation

Press Release Source: Delta Air Lines On Thursday February 25, 2010, 3:25 pm EST

ATLANTA, Feb. 25 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Delta Air Lines (NYSE:[DAL](#) - [News](#)) today received notification from the National Mediation Board (NMB) that a majority of eligible flight simulator technicians rejected union representation by the International Association of Machinists (IAM).

"Our flight simulator technicians have made a decisive choice not to have IAM representation," said Mike Campbell, Delta's executive vice president of Human Resources and Labor Relations. "We take our responsibility to do right by our people very seriously and we'll continue to do everything we can to make Delta a great place to work."

"It's now time for the IAM to move forward to allow our employees in other workgroups the same opportunity to express their individual choice about union representation."

Read more: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Delta-Flight-Simulator-prnews-38658962.html?x=0&.v=1>

[Other Airline News](#) (Recent stories of interest):

Airlines ripe for another merger, experts say

By Aaron Smith, CNNMoney.com staff writer February 26, 2010: 4:51 PM ET

NEW YORK (CNNMoney.com) -- Now that the merger between Delta and Northwest is complete, other airlines are under the spotlight for potential consolidation.

Airline analysts think that the skies are too crowded with too many players, making another merger all but inevitable.

"We've got too many airlines and too many seats and too many hubs," said Ray Neidl, an industry consultant. "In the next two to five years, we're going to have less airlines, and it's either going to be through mergers or bankruptcies."

But don't expect it to happen anytime too soon, he added -- the ongoing recession is dampening the corporate appetite for risk.

Read More: http://money.cnn.com/2010/02/26/news/companies/airline_merger/index.htm?source=yahoo_quote

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The RJ Dead?

Thursday, February 25, 2010, 11:26am EST | Modified: Thursday, February 25, 2010, 12:56pm

Republic Airways to purchase at least 40 jets

Business First of Louisville - by [Brent Adams](#) Staff Writer

Image courtesy | Bombardier

Republic Airways Holdings Inc. plans to purchase at least 40 Bombardier CS300 jets. It also has an option to purchase up to an additional 40 jets. The 138-seat jets are powered by Pratt & Whitney PW1000G engines.

Republic Airways Holdings Inc. has signed an agreement to purchase 40 **Bombardier** CS300 jets, with an option to purchase an additional 40.

The first 40 of the 138-seat jets is scheduled for delivery during the second quarter of 2015.

Bombardier said in a news release that the total purchase price of the first 40 jets, is about \$3.1 billion. The total value of the contract, if the full option is exercised, is about \$6.3 billion.

Indianapolis-based Republic (NASDAQ: RJET) currently has 283 aircraft in its fleet. It operates a maintenance hub at **Louisville International Airport**.

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Thursday, February 25, 2010, 8:14am PST | Modified: Friday, February 26, 2010, 5:00am

United finalizes \$4.2B Boeing 787 order

Puget Sound Business Journal (Seattle)

Boeing Co. said **United Airlines** has finalized its order for 25 787-8 airplanes valued at \$4.2 billion at list prices. The deal was **originally announced in December**.

The Chicago-based airline also has options to buy an additional 50 787s.

United said it will retire its Boeing 747s and 767s when it begins to take delivery of the Everett-built 787s.

“United’s Boeing 787 order represents a substantial investment in our future and will enhance the significant progress we are making in improving the global competitiveness of our company while providing the opportunity to open new profitable markets and serve a broader range of international destinations,” said John Tague, president of United Airlines, in a statement.

Boeing Co. (NYSE: BA) said that it now has orders for 867 787s from 57 customers.

“United, which launched the Boeing 777, now begins a new chapter with the 787 Dreamliner, the most technologically advanced commercial jetliner ever built,” said Jim Albaugh, president and CEO of Boeing Commercial Airplanes, in a statement.

[Finance Section](#) (section containing items with financial consequence to our group):

FINANCE: CLAIMS/PBGC/HCTC/INSURANCE/PLANNING/TAX/ESTATE

Remaining financial items for retirees to watch:
After Aug 2007 these are retirement items remaining with financial consequence.

1. ~~PBGC 2nd look re-calc at qualified annuity benefits~~ - **completed 8/24/07**
2. ~~PBGC make up lump payment for underpayments since termination:~~ **most reported received 1/31/08**
3. Final claim distribution by DAL through BSI - **pending (now likely in '10 according to Kight)**
4. ~~Class Action suit against DAL concerning 5 yr look back worth in excess of \$100 million -~~
withdrawn
5. Final PBGC re-calc "determination" of qualified annuity (likely after claim stock sale) -
pending
6. Pension reinstatement/contribution request by DP3 representing the retired pilots. **very long shot....pending**
7. ~~Roth IRA creation as per Worker, Retiree, and Employer Recovery Act of 2008 -- deadline June 22nd, 2009~~
8. Expiration of HCTC 80% premium subsidy will expire on December 31, 2010.

Insurance (issues about health, life or disability that are of interest):

From: ASHAN1011@aol.com

Date: 02/24/10 00:32:39

To: mark@pilotcommunication.net

Subject: medco

Hey Mark,

I have been in contact with DALRC and Medco this week and think that their computer(Medco's) is programmed incorrectly. They wanted me to pay twice the co-pay as the one listed in the formulary.

I am also following up with Medco on my wife's Cobra coverage which is the Delta Pilot's Health Plan.

I believe that it is the same computer set up wrong. This has been going on since Jan. 1 and there are probably many pilots who have been overcharged and did not notice it. Refunds should be due many. Please give the group a heads up. Thanks. Al Shanahan

My short-term memory is not as sharp as it used to be.

Also, my short-term memory's not as sharp as it used to be.

BE CAREFUL OUT THERE!

ALLEN

I mean be really CAREFUL out there!!

[Allen](#)

Pension:

Commercial Section.....

Investment (Legitimate firms that have helped our group are encouraged to contact PCN to add articles here):

Section reserved for future content.

Travel & Non-Revving (share a quick reco):

C. David Langas

cclangas@att.net

Issue Area -- Non Rev

Comments -- In the most recent issue---2/22/10---there is comment that retired NW pilots keep their seniority for non-revving. Is that a true fact? If so, what is going to be done about it as far as retired Delta pilots are concerned?

Dave

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From: k1fjm@aol.com

Date: 2/22/2010 1:54:30 AM

To: mark@pilotcommunication.net; dwskjerven@aol.com

Subject: exNWA Personnel Non-Rev Pecking Order??

After reading the new PCN, I am not sure that I understand how former NWA personnel are assigned non-rev precedence @ DAL.

If a **retired** NWA employee with date of hire of 01JAN1990 non revs and an **active** DAL employee with DOH of 02JAN1990 are listed on the same flight, who will be assigned a non-rev seat first?

Is there anything else I am missing in my traditional assumptions?

Regards

F/O (ret) Pete Heins, DOH 03OCT91 and age 60 + 3 years + 1 month + 12 days

Editor: I do not know the answer for the two posts above. Maybe someone in our group has the definitive answer.

Life Section...

HIPAA and Health Advocate Information Important to You...

Remember that piece of paper that you have to sign when you see your doctors, often even if you saw them the previous day?

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (**HIPAA**) is the law that protects the privacy of every individual's Protected Health Information (**PHI**). Your doctor must have your permission to share your **PHI** with those who need to know, i.e., insurance companies. We all sign this permission slip at least annually with each medical care provider.

The **HIPAA** law concerning **PHI** is serious business with major financial consequences for violations.

The Retiree Benefit Trust Board cannot accept **PHI**. It is **AGAINST THE LAW** for us to have **ANY PHI** without implementing costly **HIPAA** required safeguards. The Trust Board members are volunteers and have no physical office at which to reasonably implement these requirements.

If you call a Trust Board member with an issue, we will advise you not to disclose any Personal Health Information. At the point **PHI** is disclosed, the Board member will advise that the call is being terminated and why. If you are a participant in the **DALRC** over 65 insurance plans, you will be advised to call Health Advocate.

If your email to a Trust Board member contains **PHI**, we will delete it at the point we realize it contains **PHI** and reply with a request that you contact a personal Health Advocate with your question. Letters containing **PHI** will be shredded at this same point.

The Trust Board was made aware of **HIPAA** law requirements and penalties during our planning with J. Smith Lanier in 2009. A Board **HIPAA** policy was adopted in June 2009, and the above instructions were communicated to Trust Plan members June 2009. These have been repeated in the Open Enrollment and Age Up Enrollment packages.

Recognizing that members will still need individual assistance with health care information, issues and planning, the Trust Board put Health Advocate in place for all Medical Plan participants effective 10/01/09, and communicated this to all Plan members.

Your personal Health Advocate is the appropriate contact for obtaining any assistance you require or want concerning all Trust plans.

With this communication, the Trust Board is informing all Trust plan members that, in addition to Trust Board members not receiving **PHI**, the Trust Board has adopted a resolution requiring a Trust Board member to refer any Health Plan member's service questions to Health Advocate if the member has not already done so. If the member has contacted Health Advocate, the member's name will be taken by the Board member along with the date of your call and name of the Personal Advocate with whom you spoke. This information will be forwarded

to **JSL** for resolution with Health Advocate and/or the insurance carrier. Recordings of all calls made by you to Health Advocate and Marsh will be reviewed by the management of the respective companies. The findings and any corrective measures will be reported back to you in a timely fashion.

Remember, Trust Board members should be your last resort if you have connected with a personal Health Advocate and feel your questions were not addressed in the manner you needed. Remember as well that Health Advocate is not Marsh or the carrier. They are a support service for you.

Please note the person's name with whom you spoke. **JSL** will have your call reviewed by **Health Advocate** management to see what they could have done better. All of the preceding information pertaining to personal health information is given to remind you to communicate **NO PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION (PHI)** to Trust Board members.

Remember:

- The **Retiree Benefit Trust Board** members oversee the medical and other **Health & Welfare** plans that the Trust sponsors. That is their only function as **Trust Board** members. The **Trust Board members** are: **Sandy Rollins, Chmn./Benefits Liaison; Bonnie Hirschberg, Bob Werner, Carl Brul, Treasurer, and Larry Beck, Secretary.**
- The **DALRC** Board is not involved with **DALRC** Retiree Trust Board business. Current **DALRC** Board Members, in addition to the above, are Judy Bergstrom, Mike Podett and Jon Maynard. Please contact **ONLY** the Retiree Trust Board members concerning insurance benefits.

We want you to be aware that, out of over 16,000 members, we have had a few report dissatisfaction when they believed they were calling Health Advocate. When **JSL** had both Health Advocate and Marsh review calls made by the member to each, it was determined that, in all but one case, the call was made to Marsh, not Health Advocate.

Remember, Marsh can **ONLY** help you with medical claims, benefits, eligibility and premiums on all plans. **Marsh's phone number is: 1-877-325-7265.**

Health Advocate can help you with **ALL** questions and insurance company information. **Health Advocate's number is: 1-877-325-7265.**

CALL HEALTH ADVOCATE for a personal Health Advocate who will provide personalized and professional assistance with **ANY** healthcare related question! They are equipped to handle your **PHI** appropriately. Please help yourself obtain the best health care and health care service by calling Health Advocate.

As a participant in the DALRC Medical Plan, you may establish your relationship with your own personal Health Advocate by calling 1-877-325-7265.

Your DALRC Retiree Benefit Trust Board

Misc Posts:

From: "mark detwiler" <mdetwiler@me.com>

As a former Navy, Western and Delta pilot, there are many good friends that I have lost track of over the years because we all "got hired" by different carriers, had mergers etc. Is there a way to post contact info for the pilots of the different carriers that are now Delta?

Just a thought,
Mark Detwiler
760 489 1054

Mark,

Thanks for the thought. We cannot do what you suggest because if you know anything about our pilot group they are fiercely private and all retired and active living pilots deserve protection. At the PCN we protect that.

What we do instead is if someone has a name they are looking for and they are in our database we give the sought after the email of the seeker. If they wish to make the connection they have the control. That is how it is done and as long as I have input to our net that is how we will operate. There are waaaaayyyy too many problems to doing what you suggest.

Should you be seeking a friend may have passed on, then anyone can access our spreadsheet of known DAL pilots (family and employees) that have made the final flight west.

Thanks anyway. It was worth a try. And as for those looking, if the sought is inside our database I am happy to provide the sought with the seekers email.

Human Interest:

Thanks Bill for this:

This site lists all veterans lost during the Viet Name era, even lets you click on a person and read about them.

Very touching. The link below is a virtual wall of all those lost during the Viet Nam war with the names, bio's and other information on our lost veterans.

First click on a state. When it opens on a name it should show you a picture of the person or at least his bio and medals.

<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

Good Read (Good book recommendation & [Community Author's](#) blurbs):

Event Announcements (Click here for [PCN Org & Groups Page](#)): to post pcn.calendar@gmail.com

Thanks to David Roberts

robertsDL@mindspring.com

Issue Area - Event

Comments - AIRSHOW CALENDAR

You may see the 2010 Air show schedule at <http://www.airshow.com/airshowschedule.htm>

You may also sort it by state at <http://www.airshow.com/>

Good Deal/Bad Deal (Share a quick good deal or bad deal you have found – no commercials here!)

Hangar Flying (Share a bit of ole hangar flying with the net) :

Anchors Aweigh! Great WWII Navy footage.

John Eckert

jeeckert@gmail.com

- WW II : RARE COLOR FILM : AIRCRAFT CARRIER IN THE PACIFIC

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=9dR3h2HdnBQ

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Subject: Blue Angels in HD

Aerial ballet! Really well done video.

I'm glad somebody is having fun with my tax dollars,

Lane

The United States Navy's Blue Angels in HD

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=W6tB8Lf7YoU

Subject: To Be 6 Again (*Thanks Lane*)

To Be 6 Again...

A man was sitting on the edge of the bed, watching his wife, who was looking at herself in the mirror. Since her birthday was not far off he asked what she'd like to have for her birthday.

'I'd like to be six again', she replied, still looking in the mirror .

On the morning of her Birthday, he arose early, made her a nice big bowl of Lucky Charms, and then took her to Six Flags theme park. What a day! He put her on every ride in the park; the Death Slide, the Wall of Fear, the Screaming Roller Coaster, everything there was.

Five hours later they staggered out of the theme park. Her head was reeling and her stomach felt upside down. He then took her to a McDonald's where he ordered her a Happy Meal with extra fries and a chocolate shake.

Then it was off to a movie, popcorn, a soda pop, and her favorite candy, M&M's. What a fabulous adventure!

Finally she wobbled home with her husband and collapsed into bed exhausted.

He leaned over his wife with a big smile and lovingly asked, 'Well Dear, what was it like being six again?'

Her eyes slowly opened and her expression suddenly changed.

'I meant my dress size, you moron!!!!'

The moral of the story:

Even when a man IS listening, he is gonna get it wrong!

Editor: And all men can testify!

Mark

Mark Sztanyo, PCN Dir

[Pilot Communication Net](#)

[Contact the Net](#)

Serving the Delta community, and pilots (active and retired) and their families, *including original Delta, and former:* Northeast, Pan-Am, Western, NWA, Republic, North-Central, Southern Airways, Hughes- Airwest, and all the Delta Connection carriers.

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Delta Pilots Pension Preservation Organization - <http://www.dp3.org>
Delta Museum & Fly-in information - <http://www.deltamuseum.org>
Delta Pioneers - <http://www.deltapioneersinc.com/>
Delta Golden Wings - <http://www.deltagoldenwings.com/>
Delta Retiree Connection - <http://www.dlretiree.info>
Delta Retirement Committee - <http://www.dalrc.org/>
DAL Pilots DDPSA - <http://www.ddpsa.com/>
Delta Extra Net Portal - <http://dlnet.delta.com/>

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