

IAM

April 9, 2008

Northwest Airlines

08-06

Air Transport District 143

FOCUS

DAL-NWA Merger Discussions

The seemingly once dead merger discussions between Northwest Airlines and Delta Airlines have been resuscitated according to the latest media reports. As many of you are already aware, throughout the past few months both carriers were courting their respective pilot groups in an effort to lobby their support for a merger between the two carriers.

After weeks turned into months, neither group was able to reach an agreement (mostly related to seniority integration) and the much anticipated merger faded from media headlines—until now. Once again, it is apparent that merger talks between the two carriers continue to be ongoing; only this time it appears that the Company is willing to proceed without the input of the pilots or any other labor organization for that matter.

District 143 has remained vigilant in our lobbying efforts to state and federal legislators to ensure that our membership is protected in the event of any merger. As previously stated, District 143 will not support any merger that would directly, or indirectly, allow for the wholesale elimination of our jobs or our communities. Nor will we ever support any merger that solely benefits shareholders or corporate executives.

The Machinists Union has assessed the impact of these potential mergers and determined that many of the combinations proposed would have an adverse effect on the cities the airlines currently serve, the flying public, and the employees that have given major concessions to allow these airlines to continue flying. We will do whatever is legally possible to protect our members' contracts and their pensions.

Even if two airlines agree to merge, the merger's successful completion is far from guaranteed. The Department of Justice must approve any merger, and the Department of Transportation will evaluate any proposal for its impact on the public. A final decision could take more than a year. It took 15 months for the proposed United Airlines—US Airways merger proposal (which the IAM opposed) to unravel and die.

We will continue to keep you updated as we receive any information.



UNION LABEL



08-009

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen M. Gordon".

Stephen M. Gordon
President/Directing General Chair

POST!
On all IMAW
Bulletin Boards

www.iam143.org