

IAM

January 7, 2009
Northwest Airlines
#09-001

Air Transport District 143

Flashpoint

NMB Rules on ALPA's Single Carrier Application

Today the National Mediation Board issued its decision on the Airline Pilots Association's ("ALPA") application that Delta and Northwest be declared a single transportation system for the labor relations purposes governing the Pilots.

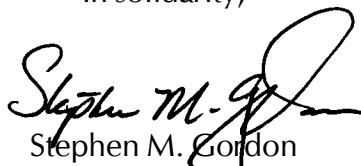
As you may recall, ALPA – which represents the pilots at both carriers – reached an agreement with Delta to file a single carrier application in exchange for an enhanced collective bargaining agreement.

Delta hoped, through the single carrier proceeding, to be permitted to improperly control the representation election process for other crafts or classes. While the Board granted ALPA's application, it specifically rejected Delta's argument that ALPA's application required the board to review the existing certifications of the IAM and AFA, who have not yet filed their applications to extend their certifications for employee groups at Northwest to those at Delta Air Lines. The Board agreed with the IAM and recognized that under the well-settled law, only the involved employee groups – and not the company – control when a representation election is to be held.

Transportation General Vice President Robert Roach, Jr., said, "This decision clearly demonstrates that strong labor unions prevent companies from imposing their will on employees. While this is a victory for the working people of Northwest and Delta, there is still a great deal of work to be done. The IAM pledges its resources and people to obtaining justice for all the employees of Northwest and Delta."

On the whole, this is a victory for the IAM and the employees of Northwest and Delta Air Lines. We are pleased that the board has reaffirmed the fact that it is the employee groups that control their destiny and not their employer. We look forward to an election at the appropriate time.

In solidarity,



Stephen M. Gordon
President/Directing General Chair



UNION LABEL



09-001

POST!
On all IAMAW
Bulletin Boards

www.iam143.org