AL PA Aviation Matters

It's Time for the Follow-Through

he beginning of every
New Year is a time
to reassess, and 2011 is
no different. This year, your
union will demonstrate how
ALPA is the most powerful
aviation union in the world,
bar none.



Many factors contribute to this statement—history, safety record, etc.—but we have two strengths that are unmatched by any other pilot union. The first: we represent more than 53,000 airline pilots at 38 airlines. It is statistically verifiable—we are the largest. The second: ALPA staff. Our immeasurable amount of knowledge and experience cannot be duplicated.

Together, we make a formidable team. We're 53,000 pilots from all different walks of life, flying all different kinds of equipment, routes, passengers, and cargo. From time to time, we will have our differences, but we cannot and must not let those differences define our relationship. Instead, we must focus on the overwhelming amount we have in common and work together to move our profession forward.

But we don't have to do it alone. We're backed by the best professional staff in the industry. We don't outsource to professional negotiators when we're in Section 6 negotiations because we don't have to; we already have 42 of the best in the industry on our staff. Pilot groups from around the world seek out the expertise of our Economic and Financial Analysis Department, which provides an incredible amount of specialized data. The Retirement and Insurance Department specialists tailor each and every one of the plans for our 38 pilot groups to meet each group's unique needs.

On the safety front, ALPA is considered the conscience of the airline industry due to the life-long advocacy efforts of our dedicated pilot representatives and Engineering and Air Safety Department staff. Improving aviation safety and security goes to our very core and continues to rank high on our priority list.

But we can't rest on our size and talent alone. We have to execute. One of my first orders of business will be to deploy

every resource available to implement CrewPASS. It's taken far too long, but we're going to make it happen. We're not going to let petty politics and parochial self-interests stand in the way of getting CrewPASS implemented and sooner rather than later.

Getting CrewPASS implemented will be just one of many obstacles we will overcome as the world's largest and strongest pilot union. How? We will make every reasonable and rational move on the board and engage with every party that can have an effect on our professional lives and careers if it helps us to achieve our strategic goals. We'll move forward with a renewed focus. If we can make it happen, we will make it happen.

Eighty years ago, visionaries paved the way to ALPA becoming what it is today—the preeminent voice of airline pilots. And today, ALPA remains the most powerful advocate of line pilots. And although these visionaries paved the way, generations after generations of airline pilots have welcomed the burden

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and weight that comes along with actively engaging with airline industry partners around the world to ensure that airline pilots are not taken for granted. Each generation in its time has vowed to carry forward the priorities of airline pilots.

Now it's my turn. Along with my fellow elected national officers and the collective support of all ALPA members, we're going to carry that torch, not only for the 53,000 members in this union today, but also for the generations of pilots who will follow us.

It's time to execute our plan. And, it's time for follow-through.

Capt. Lee Moak, ALPA President

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