

Transport Workers Union of America AFL-CIO



Air Transport Local 567

2050 Golden Triangle Drive • Fort Worth, Texas 76177

817-232-9471 • 888-232-9410 • Fax 817-232-8729

Hangar 817-224-0123 • TEO 817-224-0158

All Members of TWU Local 567,

On behalf of the entire Executive Board, I want to thank everyone for supporting us during the hamburger cookout and the handing out of the current T/A. Many members have asked for the boards "official" position on this T/A, I hope that after the cookout, everyone is left without a doubt; this board's recommendation is a resounding "VOTE NO".

We have been accused by the International of not explaining why you should reject this tentative agreement and even of trying to "buy" no votes with a few hamburgers by others. We know full well, our members are much smarter than that, to be swayed by a small meal. We will however hit the high points for those that haven't taken the time to stop and read this so called offer by the company.

For starters, there are too many open ended letters concerning things yet to be discussed and agreed upon such as profit sharing, V.E.B.A., and DWH. You wouldn't sign off on a mortgage with items left open, why would you vote in a contract concerning your wages, working conditions, and benefits with items such as these left dangling in the wind. A fiscal responsible person would not; they wouldn't risk the future of their family.

Secondly, the increase of available seat miles (ASM) flown by commuter air carriers, could have a devastating effect on which line stations remain staffed by TWU members. For those that think it only affects the line stations, so who cares. Where do you think people will ultimately bump during a reduction in force? That's right, overhaul. So this change affects ALL of us as members.

Speaking of overhaul, let's not forget the addition of the new Support Mechanic Airframe (SMA). Not only does this reduce the number of mechanics jobs out there, it means that an OSM will rarely see an upgrade to a full AMT. Many, who desire to be an AMT, will never see it and have to spend the rest of their career as an OSM never getting paid for the licenses they worked so hard to achieve.

Hopefully everyone enjoyed moving around shop to shop at the overhaul bases, because if this T/A goes through, you may never see another shop to shop transfer up for bid. Take a look at the new language in Article 12 attachment 12.1- Transfers to Job Vacancies at Maintenance Bases. Specifically read the language found in 12.1(i) (1) covering labor loans less than 90 days and the language found in 12.1(a) (1) covering labor loans in excess of 90 days. In short, under 12.1(a) (1), the company never has to post an opening if they simply desire to just move headcount around the "business unit".

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If you currently hold a bid position or thinking of bidding one, with the new annual Evaluation/Demotion Procedures in attachment 12.3, you will (for all intent and purposes); be on permanent probation. Nothing like being raked over the coals every year when you've been a Crew Chief for the last ten or twenty years. This is nothing more than a way for the company to "weed" out the people that won't bend to their every whim or rule with a "heavy hand" over their crew, a person who will do the supervisor's "dirty work" for them.

We have just listed a few points to **Vote NO** to this T/A, but the obvious reasons this T/A should be **rejected**, everyone should know by now. Many of the things that were stripped away during the **2003 concessions (rape)** by threatening bankruptcy have yet to be restored. In fact, this agreement is asking for more concessions through changes in work rules and benefits. We gave more than we should have back in 2003, giving up things our Union Brothers/Sisters before us fought hard to attain; that we had no right to surrender. Now is the time to **stop the concessions** and start restoring our pay and benefits. As this Executive Board has been **UNIFIED** behind the negotiators who have continually **Voted No** to bringing back agreements like this, we now need you the membership to be **UNIFIED** and take this Boards' **STRONG RECOMMENDATION TO VOTE NO** and send this so called tentative agreement back to the table.

On behalf of the Local 567 Executive Board,

Kenneth E. Powell
Vice President Aircraft Maintenance
Transport Workers Union, Local 567

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