

09PRL11

IFALPA supports ANSV calls changes to Italian accident investigation regulations

Chertsey 25 February: The International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations (IFALPA) supports the Agenzia Nazionale per Sicurezza del Volo (ANSV) in its calls for a change in Italian law which will give technical investigation of an aircraft accident primacy over any judicial inquiry. Under present legislation the judicial inquiry takes precedence. As a result, the ANSV is being hampered in its investigation into the crash of a Citation III operating an air ambulance flight earlier this month.

According to the ANSV, the Department of Justice has seized data relating to the crash including the Flight Data (FDR) and Cockpit Voice (CVR) Recorders. Clearly, the loss of this data will seriously impact the effectiveness and speed of the ANSV investigation.

IFALPA argues that that in order to get the full benefit of an investigation into the factors leading to a crash, that investigation must be carried out in accordance with the internationally agreed principles laid out in ICAO Annex 13 and that this inquiry must take precedence. Accordingly, the Federation calls on the Italian Government to act to change national law regarding air accident investigation and, in doing so, help to improve the safety of the travelling public.

Notes to Editors

The International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations represents in excess of 100,000 pilots in more than 100 countries world-wide. The mission of IFALPA is to be the global voice of airline pilots, promoting the highest level of aviation safety and security world-wide and providing services, support and representation to all of its Member Associations. See the Federation website www.ifalpa.org

For more information contact Gideon Ewers, IFALPA Media Communications Officer +44 1932 579041 or on gideonewers@ifalpa.org