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IFALPA Conference calls for adherence to the findings of independent flight crew fatigue study

The International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations (IFALPA) meeting today at its 64th Conference in Auckland is closely following developments in Europe regarding current and future Flight Time Limitations (FTL). These developments will not only impact on the safety of air transport and the travelling public in Europe, but will also have world-wide repercussions. IFALPA therefore welcomes the recent independent scientific study conducted on behalf of the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) into the effects of fatigue on flight crews and safety, as an important mile-stone in the development of science-based FTL schemes around the world.

The 197 delegates representing over 100,000 professional pilots in more than 100 countries worldwide therefore called unanimously upon the European Commission, EASA, national Authorities, the European Parliament, and other stakeholders to work with European Cockpit Association and its Member Associations towards:

- ▶ *the highest, scientifically supported FTL safety standards in Europe, both with EU-OPS and the future EASA rules;*
- ▶ *the swift development of EASA FTL rules and the modification of EU-OPS Subpart Q, in line with the findings of EASA's scientific evaluation of Subpart Q;*
- ▶ *the safeguarding of a legally binding EU-wide framework providing for a uniform minimum level of FTL safety standards for all operators;*
- ▶ *legal certainty by unambiguous safety-based EU interpretations of Subpart Q provisions;*
- ▶ *strictly limiting National Authorities' / operators' variations from EU-wide FTL rules to cases where a variation is demonstrated to be strictly necessary and where a sound, transparent, scientifically based and safety-driven procedure has been followed;*
- ▶ *preventing any safety regression which would reduce current higher national safety standards to a lower EU-wide minimum.*

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

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