Request for Mutual Assistance

Austrian Cockpit Association - Austrian Airlines pilots

Dear Colleagues,

IFALPA has been informed that the Austrian Transport and Services Union (VIDA), which is a close partner our IFALPA member association Austrian Cockpit Association (ACA), has called for Industrial Action of pilots and cabin crew at Austrian Airlines. Despite 18 rounds of negotiations with the airline management, employees have been unable to reach an agreement regarding salary, pension, flight time duty time and working conditions. The management’s offer on salary is far below what virtually all of the other pilots currently enjoy at the Lufthansa Group of airlines (10 passenger airlines and counting).

Following a general assembly of over 1300 members (1/3rd of employees) and a 94% strike vote, VIDA is now calling for a strike starting on Thursday 27 March 2024 for 36 hours affecting all departures from Austria.

On behalf of the Austrian Airline pilots, ACA is requesting the Mutual Assistance outlined below, as per the IFALPA Industrial Manual, starting on 28 March 2024 00:01, until 29 March 2024 12:00:

- Ban on Wet Leasing (Para. 2.4.1)
- Freeze in Capacity (Para.2.4.2.2)
  - For carriers inside Alliance (Para. 2.4.2.3)
  - For carriers outside Alliance (Para. 2.4.2.3)
- Assistance to Pilots Stranded Away from their Home Base (Para. 2.4.5)
- Prohibition of Pilot Contracting (Para. 2.4.6)
- Submissions and Representations (Para. 2.4.7)

ACA further requests Letters of Support for Austrian Airlines pilots to be sent to the attention of Andreas Strobl, President of ACA, andreas.strobl@aca.or.at and sebastiancurras@ifalpa.org

The Austrian Cockpit Association will keep IFALPA and its Member Associations informed of any further developments.

In Unity,

Captain Al Gaspari
Executive Vice President
Professional & Government Affairs
Appendix 1, IFALPA Industrial Manual

- **Request for Ban on Wet Leasing**
  A Member Association may request a ban on wet leasing. If requested, Member Associations should attempt to persuade their Companies by any appropriate and lawful means to ban Wet Leasing.

- **Request for Increased Capacity and/or Freeze**
  When requested, Member Associations should encourage their Companies to provide increased capacity but not to undertake flights on behalf of, or in the name of the struck Company.

  If requested, Member Associations should encourage their Companies to freeze capacity, by any appropriate and lawful means.

  Associations should also consider requests for an increase and/or freeze in capacity carefully, particularly if they are members of an Alliance, as it may be that they are best served by an increase from carriers outside their Alliance but a freeze from carriers that are members of the same Alliance.

- **Request for Assistance to Pilots Stranded Away from their Home Base**
  All Member Associations should, so far as is practicable, assist members of other Associations stranded away from their home base. The requesting Member Association will be responsible for the reimbursement of any costs arising from such assistance.

- **Prohibition of Pilot Contracting (Para. 2.4.6)**
  If requested, a Member Associations should make every effort to prohibit the contracting of pilots from their company to the company involved in the industrial dispute.

- **Submissions and Representations (Para. 2.4.7)**
  The Executive Board may be requested to make submissions and representations on behalf of a Member Association involved in an industrial dispute, to the media, the airline, the aviation authorities, and at ministerial, government, and political levels.

  Member Associations may be requested to supplement the above action by making similar representations on behalf of the affected Member Association.