

The International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations



I·F·A·L·P·A
The Global Voice of Pilots

16th November 2010

Mr. Claude Wiseler
Ministre du Développement durable et des Infrastructures
19-21 Boulevard Royal
L-2449 Luxembourg

Dear Minister Wiseler,

I am writing to you as President of the International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations (IFALPA) which represents more than 100,000 professional pilots in more than 90 countries worldwide. The Federation is concerned by the deterioration in the overall safety culture of Cargolux Flight Operations which has been brought to our attention by the Association Luxembourgeoise des Pilotes de Ligne (ALPL), our Member Association in Luxembourg.

This concern has recently been highlighted by a breach of Cargolux's operation manual A (OM-A), where it is expressly stated that a "Reporting System shall be Confidential and 'Non Punitive'". I am sure you will understand that a failure to maintain either of these two requirements seriously compromises the safety culture that and Air Safety Report (ASR) system attempts to establish. However, during a recent meeting with members of the Safety Department, wherein ASR's were being evaluated, the Chief Pilot received the name of the pilot responsible for a specific ASR. Not only is this a flagrant violation of the OM-A, but the fact that the pilot was subsequently summoned to the Chief Pilot's office and directed to change the contents of his ASR, is a serious abuse of power, and clearly detrimental to air safety.

These actions reinforce an already dangerous environment within which pilots are fearful to address their concerns and provide an alarming commentary on the safety culture at Cargolux operations.

In the sincere hope of preventing a possible catastrophe, we feel it our duty to inform you of these matters and urgently request your intervention.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Carlos Limon', written over a white background.

Captain Carlos Limon
President