

Forging a Federation ready for challenges



Yesterday, IFALPA President Capt. Don Wykoff opened the 2012 Plenary following an insightful welcoming speech by Patrick Gandil, DGAC of the French Civil Aviation Authority. In addition to introducing the topics to be covered in the “State of Federation Report”, Capt. Wykoff announced IFALPA’s plans to move its head office to Montreal, the milestone of which is expected to occur in July when the expanded McGill St Office is due to open.

Proximity is everything

IFALPA’s new location will be

in close proximity to both the ICAO, IATA, and ACI offices, which will put the organisation in the best position to move forward. “In addition to building a strong strategic plan, we must make a concerted effort to be technologi-

cally and industrially relevant around globe,” he said.

Capt. Rene de Groot, Deputy President, reviewed priorities related to Industrial Committee, including Mutual Assistance, and interfacing with the Industrial Committee and alliance strategy. He called on pilots to unite and move forward together, developing structures that maximize our strengths and knowledge.

de Groot noted an increase in the Helicopter Committee’s activity, especially by the pilots of the IPHPA. “Their pilots are eager to join IFALPA, which will provide them with a voice at ICAO.”

Deficit slashed in 2011, reports Lypchuk



Meanwhile, EVP Administration and Finance, Capt. Rod Lypchuk commended the staff, executive board, and volunteers on their concerted effort to embrace the new budget procedure, which has enabled our organisation to stabilize. A policy which has seen 2010’s deficit of GBP 229,000 slashed to GBP8,000 last year even as revenues fell by around GBP30,000.

As a result of these efforts as well as the income from Montreal International and the rental income from Interpilot House. Forecast is for the Federation’s balance sheet to show an average surplus of GBP35,000 annually for the next five years.

Woodward re-states his vision of IFALPA as a technical organisation

In his last address as EVP Technical Standards, Capt.



Richard Woodward made one message particularly clear: “One advantage we have in IFALPA is that we are a technical organization with technical skills. When you choose committees, make sure to choose people with tech expertise, and encourage young volunteers or else we will lose credibility and become irrelevant.”

Fongern signs off with a call to action



Capt. Georg Fongern, in his final address as EVP PA, expressed his gratitude for the



support he's received throughout his nearly 40-year career as a pilot volunteer. His final remarks expressed his desire to see pilots leverage their power by organising at a national and international level in a responsible way. "Today's pilot needs different skills than we used to – it takes a lot of work to reach the high-

est standards of the profession. It is a pilot's duty to remain humble," he said. "It's the secret to success. Concluding his remarks Fongen told delegates "The work I have done I have done for you my fellow pilots but also for selfish reasons - I got a lot out of it and had a lot of fun".

Dallel warns of Persian Gulf brain drain



Capt. Suhaiel Dallel, EVP AFI/MD, expressed concerns over mass immigration of pilots from African countries to the Persian Gulf. He

argued that this "brain-drain" of pilots exiting the AFI region could have negative impacts on safety.

Recovery signs apparent in CAR SAM

Capt. German Diaz-Barriga, EVP CAR/SAM, noted that after a period of turbulence, the member associations within the region have stabilized or even become healthy. As the industry recovers, contracts and conditions continue to improve but Diaz-Barriga went on to caution that due to the cyclic nature of the industry, this continued improvement cannot be guaranteed. He pointed to a number of concerns facing the region's pilots, citing flight and duty time issues, open skies agreements, and a growing pilot shortage as evidence of this assertion.



Asia - Pacific overcomes natural disaster and economic adversity



Capt. Korn Mansumitchai, EVP Asia/Pacific, recounted the difficult events of his region through 2011. Japan's devastating earthquake, heavy flooding, and landslide caused an estimated USD45 million worth of damage and result-

ed in 800 fatalities, some of whom were members. Despite these catastrophes, and the added stress of high fuel prices, the region's high economic growth still brought it out on top.

One standard equally applicable the only way forward for safety improvements

Concluding the "State of the Federation" presentation, Capt. Dan Adamus, EVP NAM, discussed the importance of promoting one level of safety for all airline operations. He elaborated on that region's continued efforts to enhance aviation safety, and reinforced Nardy's call to create stricter policies relating to pilot fatigue. Commending



the recent advances by the US FAA in this arena but at the same time posing the question "why exclude cargo operations from this safety improvement".

Flight and duty times based in science, demands Nardy

EVP Europe SFO Francis Nardy made an encouraging call for strength at a time of economic uncertainty for the region. He also expressed his region's frustration with regards to pilot fatigue regulation. "It is important to establish one standard based on scientific principles relating to pilot fatigue, but who determines the validity of the science?" he asked.

