



## AIRCRAFT MECHANICS FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION

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To: All AMFA Locals

Re: **National Director's Monthly Update for January 2009**

Dear Members:

The tentative agreement with Southwest Airlines was ratified by the members yesterday. The press release can be found on AMFA National's Web site. Their new contract continues their position as the highest paid aircraft mechanics in the airline industry. The AMFA Negotiation Committee was able to secure increase in wages, expand the scope of work, place limits on international outsourcing, and enhance job security at the carrier. This is due in large part to our philosophy of open negotiations where the membership has the opportunity to observe the negotiation process and provide input to their negotiation committee. This level of membership participation increases overall solidarity which provides better negotiating leverage at the table. The new agreement will be signed next week in Dallas.

I spent the first week of January in Phoenix attending the Local 32 membership meeting and speaking with Southwest and Alaska Airlines members. I also had the opportunity to visit both work areas and respond to everyone's questions on their respective negotiations. The second week of January I traveled to Dallas and Houston participating in informational meetings regarding the Southwest contract.

The third week of January I attended the Local 14 monthly membership meetings and provided Association updates. The Alaska Section 6 negotiations are on track, and contract extension negotiations will resume shortly now that the medical benefit cost information has been shared. The Horizon Air negotiations are proceeding as scheduled and they met for a full week this month.

At Northwest/Delta, the LOA for seniority integration passed and was signed in Atlanta on January 21<sup>st</sup>. The LOA will "dove-tail" the two seniority lists by date-of-hire; establishing both company and classification seniority.

For more carrier specific updates and in depth information regarding AMFA and the airline industry, please visit AMFA National's Web site at [www.AMFANational.org](http://www.AMFANational.org) and remember our most determined efforts will not succeed without your continued support and participation – Please stay informed. With your participation we will jointly craft our collective future. Work together, support one another, and be proud of your important profession.

Sincerely,

Louie Key  
National Director

**SAFETY IN THE AIR BEGINS WITH QUALITY MAINTENANCE ON THE GROUND**

