

OPENING OF THE 71ST IFALPA CONFERENCE



Mr. Mark Romig

On Friday 15 April, Mark Romig, President and CEO of the New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation, opened the first plenary session by welcoming delegates to New Orleans for the IFALPA 71st Annual Conference. Captain Tim Canoll, President of ALPA, expressed his welcome on behalf of ALPA as the hosting MA.

President Captain Martin Chalk took to the podium to acknowledge the platinum sponsors, Airbus and Boeing, for their unwavering support throughout the years. He also thanked the

other sponsors and exhibitors for their participation in this year's Conference. He later asked delegates and attendees to give a moment of silence in remembrance of Captain Borris Delancy, past IFALPA RVP CAR/EAST who passed away in December 2015.

President Captain Chalk presented his annual report and then invited his fellow Executive Board Members to present their annual reports along with the Committee Chairmen.

Captain Rod Lypchuk EVP Administration, Membership & Finance (AMF)

Captain Lypchuk, IFALPA Executive Vice-President Administration, Membership and Finance, presented the Federation's 2015 budget showing a surplus for the fourth consecutive year despite the slight decline in memberships in the past year and the weak Canadian dollar. The Federation continues to monitor its budget closely. Captain Lypchuk also updated the delegates on the status of the UK Inter-Pilot Charitable Trust. All the funds will be invested and the interests generated will be used for the betterment of all the Member Associations (MAs) such as funding tailored training and meetings. Captain Lypchuk later provided an update on the new services offered to its MAs and the locations of the upcoming

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TODAY'S AGENDA

09.00-10.30
Plenary Session
Venue: Salons 2, 3, 4 & 5

10.30-11.00
Coffee Break
Venue: Roosevelt Promenade

11.00-12.30
Plenary Session
Venue: Salons 2, 3, 4 & 5

12.30-14.00
Lunch
Venue: Crescent City Ballroom

14.00-16.00
Plenary Session
Venue: Salons 2, 3, 4 & 5

16.00-16.45
Presidents' & Chief Delegates' Meeting
Venue: Chambers 1 & 3

17.00
Nominations for Executive Vice-President (Region) and Regional Vice-President positions close.

18.30-19.15
Pre Awards Dinner Reception
Venue: Roosevelt Promenade

19.15-00.00
Awards Dinner
Venue: Crescent City Ballroom

IFALPA Conferences. In 2017, the 72nd IFALPA Conference will be held in Montreal, Canada, and the location for the 2018 Conference will be voted at this year's conference on Monday 18 April 2016.



Delegates from Trinidad & Tobago and Tunisia

Captain Stefan Wolf

EVP Technical & Safety Standards (TSS)

Captain Wolf, who served the Federation for 17 years, invited his eight Committee Chairmen on stage to update the delegates on each of their committees' work.

Accident Analysis & Prevention (AAP) Committee Chairman Captain Pete Kaumanns provided an overview of the hot topics covered in this committee which include: recorders, data protection, flight data analysis and ICAO Annex 19. Captain Nikolaus Braun was next to bring the delegates up to speed on his Aircraft Design & Operation (ADO) Committee by mentioning the several Position Papers that were developed, the ongoing discussion on electronic Flight Control Systems and the evaluation of new working methods to organize work flow. The Aerodrome & Ground Environment (AGE) Committee Chairman, Captain Heriberto Salazar Eguiluz, later took the stage to highlight the work of his committee, followed by Captain "Rip" Torn Chairman of the Air Traffic Services (ATS) and then FO Mark Rogers Chairman of the Dangerous Goods (DG) Committee. Captain Tony Ridley, Helicopter (HEL) Committee Chairman, gave an overview of the hot topics of the committee. Human Performance (HUPER) Committee Chairwoman, Captain Tanja Harter, then took the stage to provide a summary of the work of the committee followed by Captain Agustin Guzman, Chairman of the Security (SEC) Committee.

Captain Fanie Coetzee

EVP Professional & Government Affairs (PGA)

Captain Coetzee started off his presentation by highlighting the hot topics that the PGA Committee is currently dealing with: Air Transport Regulation Panel (ATRP), Open Skies

Agreements, Multi National Airlines, Ownership & Control (Flags of Convenience), Pay-to-Fly Scheme and Flight Time Duty Time. He later invited his Legal Advisory Group (LAG) Chairman, Captain Oliver Sellmann, and Captain Ron Abel, Professional & Government Affairs Committee Chairman to provide the delegates with an overview of their committees' current activities.

Captain Souhaïel Dallel

EVP Africa & Middle-East (AFI/MID)

Up next was Captain Dallel. He highlighted the security and safety concerns faced by his region. Captain Dallel mentioned the tremendous effort that the Federation MAS have put in furthering flight safety in the region with limited resources. There were many success stories of which IFALPA can be proud of, but there are some failures that need to be address. The key, as Captain Dallel stated, is to improve overall communication and have better interactions with international organizations such as ICAO and IATA at the regional level in order to achieve the highest level of aviation safety.

Captain Ben Mansumitchai

EVP Asia & Pacific (ASIA/PAC)

The year 2015 was a success year for the ASIA/PAC region. Captain Mansumitchai presented to the delegates the many achievements accomplished by the Federation which include a successful meeting with CAAC in Beijing. In December 2015, the Executive Board Meeting was held in Hong Kong, and the Board Members had the opportunity to meet with the representatives of the China Airline Pilots' Association (ChALPA) to offer assistance.

Captain Osvaldo Neto

EVP Caribbean & South America (CAR/SAM)

Captain Neto, who was elected last year as EVP CAR/SAM, explained that the focus in 2016 for the region is to entice more associations to be part of the Federation.

Captain Jon Horne

EVP Europe (EURO)

During his speech, Captain Horne pointed out the ways that IFLAPA has supported Europe in the past year; the way the Federation stood up for the region on the issue of Cockpit Recording Systems and how it dealt with the Germanwings accident by providing a unified message from pilots, medical experts, industry and regulators regarding pilot mental fitness.

Captain Mike Pinho

EVP North America (NAM)

Captain Pinho updated the delegates on the work in the North American Region of the Federation. The region continues to work on some issues that are not only important

to the members in the U.S. and Canada, but that also affect the global landscape of the piloting profession such as FAA reauthorization, lithium battery carriage, the Gulf Carriers and their continued violations of Open Skies, and Flag of Convenience schemes, just to name a few.

THE RISE OF DRONES

The Federation had the privilege to invite Mr. Michael G. Whitaker, Deputy Administrator of the Federation Aviation Administration (FAA), to speak to delegates about one of the new challenges of the industry: the rise in the use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems which introduce new safety risks. He shared how the FAA approaches this issue in the United States by looking at four topics:

1. The integration of drones into the airspace.
2. Drone operators are considered as aviators and while operating them, air safety cannot be undermined.
3. Engagement with stakeholders to come up with recommendations on how to implement a registration system and work with pilot industry leaders to test new technologies in order to develop new rules to safely operating drones.
4. Risk-based decision making to allow more nuanced approaches to regulations.



Mr. Michael G. Whitaker



COLLABORATING WITH INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Captain Wolf (EVP TSS) invited Stephen Creamer, Director of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Air Navigation Bureau, and Michael Comber, Member & External Relationships Director at International Air Transport Association (IATA), and Captain Mike Jackson, IFALPA Representative to ICAO, to participate in a panel discussion on collaborating with industry players.

Captain Jackson spoke of how an ICAO standard is processed. The various ICAO panels provide provisions which are then sent out to the ICAO Member States and International Organizations to review which takes about three months. All the comments and reviews are then sent to ICAO where the ICAO Secretariat and Air Navigation Commission (ANC) make any necessary changes to the proposed amendments. From there, these changes go to the ICAO Council where they get approved. IFALPA is on many of the Panels and therefore influences the proposals while having the opportunity to comment when those proposals are sent out to the States and organizations.

During the discussion, laser attacks and conflict zones were brought up as great concerns for the industry. IFALPA continues to work with ICAO to establish and reinforce laws that can be implemented across all States. Conflict zones are another challenge facing the industry especially in regions where there is a lack of government support. Captain Wolf closed the segment by thanking the speakers for participating in this year conference and sharing their insights.

Captain Chalk took the podium to close the first plenary day of Conference, which was then followed by the regional meetings, and invited delegates and observers to attend the evening's hospitality event hosted by the German Air Line Pilots' Association.