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The Global Voice of Pilots

IFALPA Human Performance Committee endorse IPTS programme

The International Federation of Air Line Pilots’ Associations (IFALPA) represents in excess of 100,000 pilots in more than 100 countries worldwide. IFALPA’a mission is to be the global voice of airline pilots, promoting the highest level of aviation safety and security worldwide and providing services, support and representation to all of its member associations.

At its meeting which concluded in Hong Kong on 18th November, the Human Performance Committee of the IFALPA endorsed the findings of the Pilot Training Workshop that convened in Paris in October. The Pilot Training Workshop, which was co-sponsored by SNPL – France ALPA, VC – German ALPA, VNV Dutch ALPA and the European Cockpit Association brought together experts from 23 IFALPA member associations in five continents and was tasked to develop the Federation’s vision for pilot training.

As a result of this work, the IFALPA Pilot Training Standards (IPTS) programme has been developed. This proactive response to the projected future airline pilot shortage and the challenging dynamics of the modern cockpit demand pilot input into the process of selection and training the next generation of aviation professionals.

The reality facing the profession (and the industry as a whole) is that there is a very real risk that financial pressures on individuals and airlines may become the driving force in the development of future pilot training programmes. While it is a factor that cannot be discounted it is wholly unacceptable to IFALPA that this should be the primary element in future programmes. As always, IFALPA is concerned that training programmes are robust enough to deliver the best new hire pilot possible to the airlines. In order to reach this goal as effectively as possible the IPTS which has been developed using the experience and knowledge of pilot training experts from around the world based in the realities of line operations.
With the support of the Human Performance Committee (which is tasked with training issues) the IPTS will now go forward for consideration by the IFALPA Executive Board at its next meeting due to take place in mid February. If the programme is approved at that level it will put before the Federation’s 66th Conference for ratification.