IFALPA SUPPORTS ICAO DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL

In mid-February the International Federation of Air Line Pilots’ Associations (IFALPA) saluted the work of the Dangerous Goods Panel of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in advancing new safety standards for the transport of lithium battery consignments.

Recommendations, which will now be considered by ICAO’s Air Navigation Commission, include new standards designed to ensure that shipments of lithium batteries are labelled as dangerous goods, that shippers receive training in correctly preparing packages, airlines perform an acceptance check and inspect the packages before loading, and that pilots are notified of their location on the aircraft. Further, the Panel is calling for these standards to come into force by 1st January 2013.

Commenting on the announcement IFALPA President Captain Don Wykoff said, “IFALPA’s Dangerous Goods Committee, led by Mark Rogers have been campaigning for new standards designed to enhance safeguarding of the travelling public for many years and to see this work coming to fruition is great news. It is now vital that the Air Navigation Commission approve these recommendations without delay. As permanent observer to the Air Navigation Commission IFALPA will do all it can to make it happen.”

IFALPA represents more than 100,000 pilots in over 100 countries worldwide. Its 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.