IFALPA STATEMENT ON MALAYSIA AIRLINES FLIGHT MH17

In light of recent events impacting the aviation industry the International Federation of Air Line Pilots’ Associations (IFALPA) has released a Special Edition of its e-News Broadcast which is reproduced below.

IFALPA statement on MH17

“Given the recent press releases and statements, everyone is outraged at the shooting down of Malaysian Airlines Flight 17, and we should be. This violent act against our air transport system – peacefully engaging in global commerce – cannot be tolerated. Just as we did in the era of hijackings and following events where our own aircraft were used as weapons against us in acts of terror, we must take action.

“Our aviation system remains incredibly safe and secure, however, each and every day flights operate over and around hostile areas. We must ensure that the information being used to assess risk is “real time” and is available to those airlines and pilots in command of all of these flights. If in doubt as to the acceptable level of risk, we have to operate in the abundance of caution. In other words, if we are not sure, don’t overfly or don’t operate into a potentially hostile area. Additionally, we must review how information regarding the safety and security of operations globally are developed, shared and utilized to enable the flight crew to safely manage the risk profile for every planned flight.

“IFALPA urges all our international partners to join together to review the events leading to this tragic event and take action with the goal of further improving a safe and secure aviation system. This goal will not be met by a single organization or entity, but rather a collective effort of all those connected to a safe, secure and successful air transport system and this effort should be led by ICAO. Collectively, we should never tolerate an act of violence against the peaceful operation of commercial aircraft, be it from an individual, extremist group or sovereign nation. The flying public and the crews that serve them deserve nothing less.”

About IFALPA

The International Federation of Air Line Pilots’ Associations represents in excess of 100,000 pilots in more than 100 countries world-wide.

IFALPA’s mission is to be the global voice of airline pilots, promoting the highest level of aviation safety and security world-wide and providing services, support and representation to all of its Member Associations.

Readers seeking more information about IFALPA are invited to take a look at the Federation’s website to be found at: www.ifalpa.org
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