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Important Notice

Outsourcing In the Industry/Continental

It is a well known fact that there is a trend in this country to outsource many American jobs. This outsourcing includes aircraft maintenance. Continental recently has outsourced heavy maintenance to Pace. This recent outsourcing by Continental has been for “over flow” work. There has been no loss of jobs because of this outsourcing. Actually, in the past year, Continental has hired approximately 150 mechanics at MCO to cover heavy maintenance work that has been routed to Orlando.

There is however, a bigger issue in the industry. It is apparent that the work that is being outsourced is coming back and declared unsafe and must be re-worked by employees in the particular companies that originally outsourced the work.

The IBT and this Local Union has committed to attempt to curtail the outsourcing in the industry. In the attempt to build a national coalition of labor organizations, politicians, safety advocates, government agencies, and other aviation groups there will be a Summit on Monday, February 11, 2008 in Washington, DC. This Summit will raise awareness of the risks of outsourcing and help us work towards legislation and other regulatory changes. The IBT will be partnering with the Business Travelers Coalition (BTC), a key advocacy group for passengers. We want to launch a national debate over the ineffectiveness and inherent safety risks of the current outsourcing practices within the airline industry. We want to advise all of the absence of high accountability standard and lack of oversight by the FAA and TSA at these outsourcing facilities. These practices place our nation’s travelers at risk.

The membership will be updated as to the outcome of the Summit.