

MEC Code A Phone
February 8, 2006

This is Captain Lee Moak, MEC Chairman on Wednesday evening, February 8, from the Regular MEC Meeting in Atlanta, with one item.

As you know, since the first of the year, your MEC has been diligently preparing for a re-engagement with management to negotiate a comprehensive agreement as required by Letter 50. Last week, formal discussions began with negotiating sessions in Atlanta. During those initial meetings, we presented management with a comprehensive proposal adhering to the principles demanded by the pilot group as well as concepts agreed to in Letter 50. As in previous proposals, we once again addressed our company's legitimate needs in bankruptcy while protecting the best interests of all Delta pilots.

On Tuesday, February 7, management responded to our proposal. To state that their proposal demonstrates a lack of commitment to reach an agreement would be a gross understatement. While our proposal represents real and significant sacrifices on the part of the Delta pilots and their families, management's so-called "counter" consists of little more than their same over-reaching demands, packaged with some minor cosmetic changes.

While management's actions are disappointing, they are not unexpected. Your MEC and the Delta pilots ratified Letter 50 with eyes wide open. There were no illusions in the decision to follow this path. The MEC has been using the time gained by Letter 50 to help prepare for any contingency. This time has already paid dividends, and will continue to do so.

Today, while your MEC was in regular session in Atlanta, I directed the official opening of the Delta MEC Strike Center in direct response to management's proposal. As I have said before, this response is an act of self-defense against a Delta management that seems intent on rejecting our contract. My ability to activate the Strike Center on very short notice is a direct result of the preparation done during the time gained by Letter 50.

We remain committed to working toward a consensual comprehensive agreement, but management must realize it is also in their interest to return to the time-honored, successful concept of earnest negotiating. This is the only path that will provide a secure future for the Delta pilots, our fellow employees and our once great company.

Soon, you will receive a Chairman's Letter that will expand on this message. In the coming weeks, you will see increased media coverage and union-related activities. If you have never before participated in union events, I'm asking you to do so now. Our collective careers and Delta's future depends on it. Your unity, resolve and, most importantly, your participation will be crucial in the coming weeks.

Please continue to provide your input to your elected representatives, stay informed and participate in your union's activities. For our part, your MEC remains committed to doing all we can to best serve the interests and careers of all Delta pilots.