



## MERGER WATCH

The International Association of  
Machinists and Aerospace Workers

# May 22, 2009

Volume 2, Issue 2

[www.goiam.org/mergers](http://www.goiam.org/mergers)

## Northwest/Delta Campaign Going Strong

The campaign to preserve Northwest Airlines' IAM members' contracts and pensions after it merges with Delta Airlines is gaining momentum. "More and more Delta workers are recognizing the important protection that only a union provides," said IAM General Vice President Robert Roach, Jr. "But wanting the security of an IAM contract is not enough. Delta and Northwest workers must take action to secure the jobs and benefits they want."

Delta employees are helping to educate their coworkers about the disparity between front-line workers and privileged executives, and urging them to sign cards authorizing a representation election. "Look at your stockholder's proxy statement and take a look at the compensation our leaders received in 2008," said 23-year Delta employee Michael Stack. "Look again at the bonus you received; don't break your back lifting all those zeros!"

Stack also commented on the importance of having a defined benefit pension plan, like the IAM National Pension Plan that IAM-represented Northwest members enjoy. "Right now, Delta has frozen our retirement program and the rest is in a 401k that has only lost money since it started. A defined benefit retirement program that does not subtract your social security payments is going to be necessary to live, unless you figure on working until you die."

Delta Air Lines is urging its employees to avoid reading IAM educational material. "Delta is afraid of its employees learning that they have a right to question management, and a right to determine their own future," said Roach. "That type of dictatorial management is not good for Delta or its employees."

The IAM will seek elections for the various classifications where it has Northwest members after Northwest and Delta become a single transportation system for representational purposes. More information about the Northwest/Delta election is available at [www.iam143.org](http://www.iam143.org).