

# MERGER



# WATCH

FEBRUARY 25, 2008

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

## Merger Team Update

Merger Mania is getting stronger every day. Will it happen? When? Which airlines will try to pair up? There is a lot we don't yet know.

One thing you can count on is the Machinists Union. We have been working on the different merger scenarios since 2006 to protect our members. In our view, none of the mergers currently being proposed will benefit employees,

***The Machinists Union will oppose any merger that negatively impacts our members.***

passengers or the cities that these airlines serve. For those reasons, the Machinists Union will oppose any merger that negatively impacts our members and the traveling public.

We have contacted and received the support of important consumer and airline passenger advocacy groups. Members of the IAM's Transportation Merger Team will continue meeting with key representatives in the Senate and the House of Representatives who agree that industry consolidation is not necessary.

## Transportation Labor Works Together

IAM leaders met with officers from other AFL-CIO airline unions to discuss the impact of potential airline mergers on workers. Following the meeting, the AFL-CIO issued this statement:

"The American labor movement is deeply concerned about possible mergers between the major air carriers. Through decades of experience, we know that corporations will pursue their own interests and ignore the impact of their decisions on employees unless the workers are at the table with a strong voice through strong unions.

"We are united in our commitment to protect airline employees from the severe harm that may stem from poorly conceived airline consolidations that ignore the needs of employees and the flying public."

"We will use any and all options – including deployment of legislative, political and capital strategies – to leverage the strength of working people to ensure this latest merger mania doesn't harm this industry, its employees, passengers and communities."

"We will engage elected officials at the highest level to ensure the voices of workers are not drowned out by voices of greed and Wall Street who may seize this moment as a chance to create wealth for a few at the expense of many."

## IAM Locals Develop Unified Merger Plans

More than 120 IAM Local officers met last week in Maryland to develop a unified defense strategy against risky airline mergers.

"Our local air transport leadership committed to support the efforts of the Transportation Merger Team," said IAM Transportation General Vice President Robert Roach, Jr.

"The local officers unanimously agreed that any major airline merger would be anti-competitive for passengers and adversely affect all workers in airline and airport support jobs," said Roach.

"Air Transport locals agreed to prepare their membership for airport demonstrations and engaging their elected city, state and federal representatives at their home locations."

Railroad locals offered their support to the air transport locals' efforts.