NAATS HQ E-Mail Update December 2, 2005

You should know by now that the NLRB has filed a complaint against Lockheed Martin for failure to recognize and bargain with NAATS. The court date is in March and I fully expect LM to kick, scream, delay, accuse, and do whatever else they can think of to stop this. In fact I haven't seen the website yet, but it seems they are continuing to get involved with internal union business. Our attorneys have printed all of that and will provide it to the NLRB to further our case. The case examiner was very thorough and left no stone unturned. He had copies of the NAATS constitution, the resolutions and LM had brought this same issue up before and yet the NLRB still filed the complaint. This is going to be a long and not so pleasant fight, LM is not known to be union friendly, so whether it was NAATS or some other organization you'd see the same kind of response from the company. We are going to continue to fight to get union recognition and rights for you.

I am currently at the NAGE Executive Board meeting and they are committed to help us get through the recognition fight and negotiations.

Wally put out an update on the congressional issue and he is working with several staffers to try and sort out the intent of the language passed by the congress, but not yet signed into law. What I can tell you is the bids put out by the FAA pretty much spit in the face of the Congress and what they intended to do for people. This will all get sorted out, if you have not applied yet, and think you are covered, do so before the 5th just in case. You will of course have to falsify government documents because the way the agency put out the bid you need to check that you are a current FAA employee.

The other issue is LM finally cancelled the Red Flex Voice Switch contract, only cost them (FAA) a mere \$10 million for nothing. I expect any day they will pick up the Solacom voice switch that the MEO was going to use, they are already using the company the MEO had intended to use for text to voice technology. Managers have been instructed to not use the FS21 logo on anything they send out, could that be the pre-cursor to that system being cancelled and maybe another vendor being picked up?

I'm working on a complete re-write of the constitution which will be out for comment soon. I'll do my best to get it out in a couple of weeks. Bear with me for a few more days next week as I close on my house and move. It will take me a couple of days to get settled and new connections established. I would also ask that if you send me email or call, I can't always get back to you in a couple of hours. Please try and give me a couple of days to respond, don't wait until something is going to time out and then send me a message asking for help within a day. Thanks for your help here, it's been interesting trying to juggle everything.

Kate Breen