



April 9, 2009

Machinists Host Flight Attendant Coalition

Twenty representatives from a coalition of U.S. and foreign flight attendant unions came together this week at the IAM's William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center. The coalition meets quarterly to develop common strategies to address flight attendants' legislative, health and safety and collective bargaining issues.

"Flight attendants operate in a unique and demanding work environment," said General Vice President Robert Roach, Jr. "The IAM continues working with the leadership of other unions to ensure all flight attendants have the legislative and collective bargaining protections they deserve."

Specific meeting topics included discussions on pension trends, an analysis of the current state of the airline industry, and healthcare issues facilitated by Peter Greenberg, an IAM research economist and Continental Airlines Flight Attendant; a discussion of recent Family Medical Leave Act and Department of Labor changes led by IAM Associate General Counsel Carla Siegel; and a legislative review by IAM Assistant Legislative Director Hasan Solomon.

Leaders from IAM District 142, the United Steelworkers of America, the Association of Flight Attendants/Communications Workers of America, Association of Professional Flight Attendants, Transport Workers Union, and the International Transport Workers Federation attended the IAM's two-day program.